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(See Philadelphia Lawyer, page 329)

War and the Dark Races

GEORGE PADMORE

Philadelphia Lawyer

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College and School News

Storer College opened with an enrollment of 136. New to the faculty are Karl Quiring (mathematics and physics), Bethel College, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Purdue University; Thomas W. Bonds (history), Iola, Loyola and Western universities; Dr. Dorothy J. Fulmer (Latin), Dennison College and University of Pittsburgh; Reverend Paul S. Strickland (Bible and religious education), Morehouse College and Rochester-Colgate Seminary.

New to the **Kentucky State College** faculty are M. H. Perkins (industrial arts), Bradley Polytechnic Institute and Iowa State College, formerly at A. and T. College and Tuskegee Institute; Robert White (physical education), Kentucky State College and Indiana State University, formerly at West Kentucky Industrial College; Walter F. Anderson (music), Oberlin Conservatory of Music, formerly at Wilberforce University; Mrs. M. J. Hitch (Rosenwald Elementary School), Kentucky State College and University of Cincinnati, formerly at Beloward State Teachers' College and Florida A. and N. College; Mrs. Virginia Kalfuss Rankin (Rosenwald Practice School), University of Cincinnati, formerly at Lincoln Grant High School, Covington, Kentucky.

New appointees to the **Howard University** law school staff as teaching fellows are Spotswood W. Robinson III, Virginia Union University and Howard Law School; and James A. Washington, Jr., Howard University Law School.

Agricultural and Technical College boasts its largest enrollment with 811 students at the start of its 46th consecutive year. The civil aeronautics authority has established a school at A. and T.

New faculty members: Hubert M. Thaxton (physics), University of Wisconsin; Miss Vivian Bell (dean of women), Iowa State; B. F. Garrett (poultry husbandry), University of Wisconsin; L. M. Tobin (religious ac-

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tivities—dean of men), University of Michigan and Colgate-Rochester Divinity School; Henry R. Jerkins (English), University of Wisconsin; Roland K. Bernard (physical education), Boston University; Homer Harris (biology), University of Iowa; J. G. Porter (agronomy), Iowa State; Thomas W. Campbell (plumbing), Tuskegee Institute; Robert E. Martin (hist. and Eng.), Howard and American universities; Miss Margaret Wilson (college nurse); H. R. Humphrey (superintendent of buildings), A. and T. College; Miss Willa M. Johnson (sect. to registrar), A. and T. College.

New faculty appointments at **Morehouse College** are Miss Mary Logan Reddick (biology), and Orange Yokley (chemistry). Both hold masters degrees from Atlanta University. Miss Reddick has studied at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Mass., and has been on the Spelman faculty, while Mr. Yokley has taught in Kentucky high schools. Returning from leaves are Dr. Halson V. Engleson (physics), and Dean B. R. Brazeal. On 1939-40 study leave is Mr. Edward B. Williams (sconomics), a general education board fellow to Columbia University.

Phillip MacDonald Davis, superintendent of Spelman College buildings and grounds since 1924 and performing the same duties for Morehouse College during the past year, died on September 12.

Packard Hall has been remodeled to house students only. Rockefeller North is being used exclusively for faculty.

New faculty appointments are Miss Stella Mather (home economics), Kansas State College and Teachers College, Columbia U.; Miss Ethel McVeety (home economics), North Dakota State College and Teachers College, Columbia University; Dr. A. W. Loose (philosophy and religion), Carleton University, Andover-Newton Seminary, and U. of Edinburgh; Mrs. M. Rebekah Jeffries (dean of freshmen), Virginia Union University and Andover-Newton Theological Seminary, formerly at National Training School for Women and Girls and Virginia Union University; Miss Jean Coston (music), Oberlin College and Julliard School of Music, formerly at Howard University; Owen Dodson (grammar), Bates College and Yale University; Miss Elizabeth Jackson (history), Atlanta University; Mrs. Gladys Reid (home economics), University of Illinois and Columbia University, formerly in New York City public schools; Miss Lisle H. Arduser (applied art), Chicago Art Institute, University of Minnesota; Mrs. Lorraine Booker

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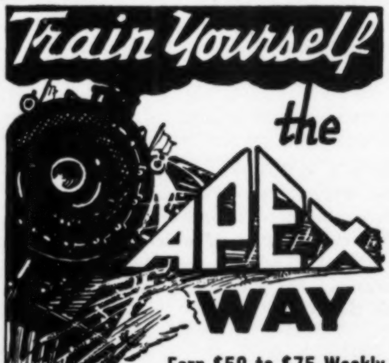

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Townes (food), Chaney State College and Teachers College, Columbia University; Miss Doris Davis, secretary to the president; and Miss Jane Mae Barns, secretary to registrar.

Wells Laurence James (faculty) has received a general education board special grant for field research in Negro music and folklore.

Total registration is 360.

Dr. Rushton Coulborn has joined the **Atlanta University** faculty as chairman of the department of history. He has degrees from Scottish, Canadian and English universities and was formerly assistant in history at University College, London, England.

New members of **Clark University** faculty are Mrs. D. M. McDonald (dean of women), New Orleans University, formerly at Gilbert Academy; Mrs. H. Powell Champe (home economics), Kansas State College and Columbia University, formerly at Southern University; Miss Mary A. Cobbs (dining room), West Virginia State College, formerly at St. Alben Training School; Larke Suber (assistant coach), Baldwin-Wallace College.

Returning from leave are A. A. McPheeters (education) from University of Cincinnati; B. H. Nelson (history) from University of Pennsylvania; and Booker T. Griffith (biology) from University of Pittsburgh.

Currently on leave are Dean J. P. Brawley to Northwestern University; Dr. Richard A. Schermerhorn (philosophy) to Yale University; J. J. Dennis (mathematics) to Northwestern University.

The Nursery School at **Bennett College** is headed this year by Dr. Alberta Turner. Dr. Donald S. Klaiss, of the University of North Carolina, will be visiting professor.

With 315 students enrolled, **Dillard University** notes an increase of 24.5% in student population, the highest in its history.

New faculty members are Miss Mary A. Morton (psychology) Howard University; Benjamin A. Quarles (history) Shaw university and the University of Wisconsin. Herman Brancon (math. and physics) Virginia State College and the University of Cincinnati; and Edward J. Baur, (social anthropology) University of Chicago.

Albert W. Dent, superintendent of the Flint-Goodridge Hospital of Dillard university, has been elected a fellow of the American College of Hospital Administrators, the first Negro to be so honored.

(*Continued on page* 350)

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A Record of the Darker Races

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THE CRISIS *was founded in* 1910. *It is published monthly at* 69 *Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., by Crisis Publishing Company, Inc., and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The subscription price is* $1.50 *a year or* 15c *a copy. Foreign subscriptions* $1.75. *The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November* 2, 1910, *at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March* 3, 1879, *and additional second class entry at Albany, N. Y.*

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NEXT MONTH

In the midst of the world-wide discussion on race and war, Dean Benjamin E. Mays, of the School of Religion at Howard university, contributes to the December issue an article entitled "Christian Youth and Race" which is a report on some of his observations and of the activities of the Amsterdam conference of Christian youth of the world last summer.

In an early issue will be presented the first of two articles on "Harlem Crime." There will be, also, a new story by Marita Bonner, and the first of two articles on the Negro in New York City.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

George Padmore has written numerous articles for THE CRISIS on colonial questions. He lives in London.

•

G. James Fleming is a well-known newspaper man who is also editor of the *Kappa Alpha Psi Journal.* He lives in Philadelphia but is employed temporarily on the staff of "The Negro in America", the study which is being conducted under the direction of Dr. Gunnar Myrdal for the Carnegie Corporation. Mr. Fleming is working on the section dealing with the Negro press.

•

Lewis Mumford is the well-known writer and critic. His estimate of his good friend, the late J. E. Spingarn, is reprinted through the courtesy of Mr. Mumford and the *Saturday Review of Literature.*

•

Nannie M. Travis is a member of the faculty of State Teachers' College at Fayetteville, N. C.

•

The Second World War and the Darker Races

By George Padmore

This new war is a fight not to preserve democracy or to blot out "evil things," but to guard the empires of England and France from Hitler, the author declares. Since this was written, Hitler has demanded colonies in his speech to the Reichstag following the Polish conquest

THE second World War has begun. Already Africans, Indians, West Indians, and other colored races are being appealed to, and in the French colonies conscripted, as cannon fodder for the bloody holocaust which threatens to drown the world in blood and bring misery, ruin and devastation on a scale before undreamt of.

The maharajahs, sultans, emirs, sheiks, paramount chiefs and other native potentates are vieing with one another in offering up the lives of their peoples as human sacrifice to Mars. However, we need not be deceived by these manifestations of "loyalty." These minions are merely doing what they have been ordered to do by their white masters. They are the stooges of imperialism.

What is the War About?

But what is this war about? This question is on the lips of every colonial one encounters in London today. While most Negroes, like the common people of England, are bewildered over the issues involved, about one thing they seem clear. And that is, the war, notwithstanding the professions of statesmen, is certainly not one for Democracy.

When we consider the autocratic manner in which colonies are administered, be they under so-called democratic or totalitarian regimes, it should cause no surprise that the colonial peoples have not been consulted as to whether they want to fight or not. All that they have been told is that this war is the noblest that has ever been embarked upon, for it is to save Poland, a Fascist state, from the big, bad Fascist wolf, Adolf Hitler. But this is sheer humbug.

The British and French imperialists are no more concerned about the Poles than they were about the Czechs. What they *are* concerned about is the preservation of their colonial empires and the monopoly which they enjoy in the exploitation of cheap colored labor. They most certainly have not gone to war to defend Democracy, which they themselves deny to hundreds of millions of colored peoples in Africa, India, the West Indies, Indo-China, Morocco, Tunis, Algeria, and other territories too numerous to mention. Nor are they at war to uphold international law and order, or even to rid the world of those "evil things—brute force, bad faith, injustice and persecution," which Mr. Chamberlain, in his speech of self-righteous indignation denounced over the radio as war was declared.

GEORGE PADMORE

What Britain in particular is worried about is the menace which German imperialism represents to her commercial interests. The politicians at Downing street, who represent the Federation of British Industries and the financiers of the city—the real rulers of the Empire—are afraid that if Hitler is not checked *now,* he might, after consolidating his position on the Continent, demand the return of the former German colonies, and call for a redivision of the colonial territories, which can be achieved only at the expense of Britain and France. This, then, is the essence of the quarrel between Nazi Germany and the so-called Democracies.

Behind all the shibboleths of "brute force and oppression," which the British and other imperialist Powers have been practicing upon the colored races for centuries, is the long standing conflict between bandit nations for colonies as markets, sources of raw material and cheap labor, spheres for the investment of finance capital, and naval, military and air bases. It is for the possession of these things that the war is being fought.

Poland the Pawn

Poland in 1939 is merely being used as a pawn in the game of power politics, in just the same way Belgium was used in 1914. The cry of "poor little Poland" is being exploited by the financiers and warmongers to win the sympathy of the common peoples of all lands. While the Polish workers and peasants are entitled to our sympathy in their tragic hour of national disaster, we can have nothing but contempt for the gang of feudal landlords and the corrupt generals who lost no time in bolting into safety, leaving the toiling masses to the mercy of Hitler and Stalin.

But let us take the words of the British Prime Minister at their face value. Is it not strange that he should be so passionately concerned about Poland (whose Foreign Minister, Colonel Beck, was one of those who helped tie the noose around the neck of Hailé Selassie at Geneva) while at the same time he condones the rape of Ethiopia? Let us not forget that it was Mr. Chamberlain who declared that sanctions were a midsummer night's dream, and who recognized the Italian "conquest" of Abyssinia by his Gentleman's Agreement with Mussolini. Mr. Chamberlain might forget these little "indiscretions," but Africans have long memories.

Furthermore, is it not strange that Mr. Chamberlain denounces the wrongdoings of Hitler but remains silent about Mussolini's "brute force, bad faith, injustice and oppression" toward Abyssinians and Albanians? Surely justice, like freedom, is indivisible. If Britain wants to win the respect of her subject peoples then her statesmen must be consistent in their advocacy of justice and fair play, even at the risk of offending Mussolini. This kind of duplicity only serves to emphasize the moral bankruptcy of those who talk about ridding the world of "evil things." We, too, want to rid the world of evil things, but this will never be until we have got rid of the system of imperialism, the most evil thing of all.

Democracy for Colonials?

Today, as twenty-five years ago, we are hearing a lot about Democracy. Poor Democracy! What crimes are committed in her name!

What do black folks know about democracy? There is as much democracy for Negroes in Mississippi as in Africa, especially in such places as Kenya, the Congo, Rhodesia and South Africa. The natives have as much liberty and freedom in their own countries as the Jews enjoy in Hitler's Germany. Nevertheless, there are some white folk who have the impudence to ask Africans to forget all about their misery and their sufferings and to line up with their slave masters as they did in 1914–18. Then it was "defense of democracy against the Kaiser and Prussian militarism." Now it is "defense of democracy against Hitler and Prussian Naziism." Only the villain has changed!

Sometimes one despairs of the stupidity of the common people. When will they learn? But if the future is to be judged from the past, those Negroes who allow themselves to be taken in by the kind of demagogy which is being peddled around today may expect as little reward for their services as they received after the last slaughter.

And what did the Negroes get out of the last war which should make them enthusiastic about the present? Nothing. Today they enjoy less democracy in their own countries than they did in 1914. And as for self-determination? Abyssinia, the last of free Africa, is sufficient answer.

One would think that the least the Allies could have done to show their appreciation to the blacks was to set aside one of the African colonies annexed from Germany as a national home for black folk. But nothing of the sort happened. Even this small act of mercy was considered too much for Negroes. Instead, Britain and France, who were supposed to have been fighting for Democracy and to free the world from the menace of Prussian barbarism, grabbed all the colonies of the defeated Powers (Germany and Turkey), and shared them among themselves. Then, to add insult to injury, they defended their action on the grounds that the natives who inhabited these territories were unfit to stand by themselves under the strenuous conditions of the modern world. Those who have any doubt about this, may read Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations.

Is it not strange that the Africans were fit enough to help the Allies pull their chestnuts out of the fire, but not fit to share in the victory? In the quarter of a century which has elapsed, Britain has had every opportunity to express her appreciation for the supreme sacrifice paid by hundreds of thousands of Africans and peoples of African descent on the battlefields of Flanders, Egypt, Palestine and Africa. Yet having failed to do so, Mr. Chamberlain today has the effrontery to talk about "bad faith" on the part of others.

They have broken faith not only with the living but with the dead. But let us not say any more about the past.

What of the present? It is not too late for our British masters to make good their lofty pretensions.

If the British and the French imperialists, and all those who are taken in by their diplomacy, really want to convince the colored races—and for that matter, the white working classes—that they are really concerned about ridding the world of "evil things," now is an excellent opportunity for them to start by putting their own empires in order. Let them extend *Democracy* to their colonies. Let Mr. Chamberlain get up at Westminster, and Mr. Daladier in the French Chamber of Deputies, and issue a declaration to the world granting their colonies *self-government*. Such a revolution in international relations would not only be a moral victory for the democracies, but a bloodless one. Such a gesture, coming at this time, would rally reinforcement to the democratic front by giving hundreds of millions of subject peoples something tangible to defend. It would cut the ground from under Hitler's feet and inspire the workers of Germany to strike a blow for freedom against their Nazi oppressors.

But will Messrs. Chamberlain and Daladier accept our challenge? Or shall our suspicions be confirmed—that their democratic statements are just a facade for their real imperialist aims?

I hate Nazism as much as anyone. I was fighting the Brown menace at a time when many who are today denouncing Hitler were singing his praises.

The fact that I spent three months in a Nazi prison does not blind me to the fact that in a capitalist world, as long as Britain and France reserve the right to rule over 500 million colored peoples and exploit their labor in the interests of plutocracy, they cannot expect Germany to be satisfied. Empire and Peace are incompatible. And it is precisely for this reason we say that if peace is to be achieved, imperialism must be abolished.

Contrition

By Lois Phillips

Forgive me, Lord, that I have broken
The promise I made to you,
That I would think of him no more;
I meant it to be true.
But this night was a haunting one,
Of softly dripping rain,
And Spring nostalgia swept my heart
. . . And left there only pain.
The drops fell on my upturned face,
Intoxicating me with such
Sweet subtleness that once again,
I felt his tender touch . . .
And breathlessly I waited there
Beneath his fingertips,
Till memories of other rain-drenched
  nights
Brought tears upon my lips.
O Lord, I failed so bitterly—
I want to try again,
I must forget him . . . but, oh please,
Dear God . . . don't let it rain!

A Philadelphia Lawyer

By G. James Fleming

Raymond Pace Alexander heads one of the most skillful, best-trained, and successful law firms in America housed in its own office building in the nation's third city

A NEGRO lawyer who knows his business and is a success is no longer news—but when this lawyer has built a powerful legal organization, surrounded himself with the best brains, and erected his own modern office building on "Main Street," then, to borrow slang, "he has something."

This is exactly what Raymond Pace Alexander of Philadelphia has done—and the firm that bears his name has become notable both on account of the calibre of practitioners in it and because of "Nineteen Hundred Chestnut Street," which is one of the showplaces of the Quaker City.

Of steel and limestone and located on one of the most important business corners, "Nineteen Hundred" is symbolic of the forward-lookingness of the builder, of his ability as a counsellor at law and of the esteem in which he is held—all making it possible for him to attract and to hold the clientele he serves. It should be symbolic, too, of how Negroes must overcome the obstacles put before them.

Eleven years ago when business made it necessary for him to locate in the principal business district, there was not a single office building that wanted Alexander, or any other Negro. Ultimately, because a bank president who knew Alexander's parents interceded, he was given a year's lease in the Commonwealth Trust Building; but, in less than six months, the manager of the building was driven by white tenants to offer to take any loss if Alexander could find other quarters, "as soon as possible." The flow of Negro clients visiting the Negro lawyer was too much for the white lessees!

Forced to settle in old, small quarters several blocks away, Alexander fitted up six private offices and saw his business grow healthily during the ensuing eight years. Then, frightfully cramped for space, he had to go office-hunting again.

By 1935 the depression had made itself felt and the business section—"Central City"—was in the midst of despair. Even the Warner Brothers theatre chain changed its mind about erecting a million-dollar de luxe movie house for Philadelphia's best and returned to its former owners a house and lot, thereby losing altogether close to a quarter million dollars in the abortive enterprise. Where Warner Brothers walked out, Raymond Pace Alexander walked in, and he was able to secure the same holding for a fraction of its original price.

The deal was news, for Chestnut Street is the main thoroughfare—a center of leading banks and insurance companies, first-run theatres, stores for the select, and large merchandising establishments, with City Hall and the courts nearby. Truly "Main Street."

Skeletons of one hundred and one Negro office buildings, lodge halls, and theatres which died a-borning made nearly everyone feel that Alexander was taking a tremendous chance. Both friend and foe (with different tones of voice) asked, "How can he do it?" But a depression was on and credit was begging to be used. The building therefore went up to completion.

Up to the time of the 1935 bank closing, it seemed that, whenever Negro organizations erected their own structure, they always succeeded in occupying every square inch of it themselves or, at least, the best of all space. Their buildings were show-off places first; money-makers and business ventures next. Not so with Alexander's. Even before he had let the contracts, he had signed a ten-year lease for the basement and first floor with one of the oldest and most reputable manufacturing opticians in the country—a little matter that assures him some $10,000 rental annually, it is said.

Anytime he wills, he may also rent the entire premises to the opticians, for they have made more than one bid to this effect. Besides, not so long ago, a national air-conditioning corporation offered real money for the property. But too frequent moving and selling of its property is often bad, psychologically, for a business, Alexander believes, and so he remains in his second floor layout, at the top of a long flight of stairs.

Here are the "works" of Raymond Pace Alexander—eight personally designed and well-appointed private offices, adequate law library, and spacious reception room, all well-lighted and ventilated under high ceilings and made comfortable as well for secretaries and clients as for principal firm members.

More Than Steel and Stone

But steel and stone do not make the lawyer, no more than magnificent buildings and a large endowment make a great university. Indeed, in the case of Alexander, much of his work as at-

1900 Chestnut Street in downtown Philadelphia, home of the Alexander firm torney and racial militant, was done in the first humble office — a converted third-floor, rear bedroom in the old Brown and Stevens Bank building—which he rented in 1923 at $30 per month.

Before he had handled a single case, he had decided that his job would be to win respect for all lawyers and to convert Negroes to increased high regard for, and trust in, the lawyer of color; he pledged himself, too, to give as much of his time and means as he could to the cause of racial advancement. When it is known that up to 1920 there were only ten Negro attorneys serving the legal needs of Philadelphia's 175,000 Negroes, then it can be seen that this still young man was certainly on the right track.

To achieve his ends, he paid attention to minute details, made a fetish of thorough preparation, and adopted the practice of arriving at his office as early as 7:30 o'clock in the mornings and remaining until as late as 8 o'clock in the evenings, in order to give those who needed him every opportunity of finding him.

The first case that brought Alexander into the limelight was that of Louise Thomas, a beautiful, young, brown-skinned girl. Gun in hand, she was found hysterical early one morning leaning over the dead body of a prominent police-detective—a married man with whom she had carried on a clandestine affair for some time and in whose body she had fired five bullets. The crime was a "natural" as front page news.

A prominent and experienced white criminal lawyer tried to save the girl from the electric chair but, after hearing several days of testimony, the jury brought in the verdict of "guilty of murder in the first degree." Louise Thomas must die.

A storm of protest arose among Philadelphia's Negroes and resulted in a citizens' committee which retained Alexander to fight to save the life of the condemned girl.

This was an opportunity and a responsibility for a 26-year old lawyer who was only one year removed from his last law school class. Alexander, after rearguing the case before the state supreme court, won a new trial, at which, a few months later, he alone represented the young woman, opposing the much more seasoned district attorney. It was a bitterly fought legal battle in a charged atmosphere, but this time the jury brought is a verdict of "not guilty." Louise Thomas was not only allowed to live but left the prison docket a free woman.

A court attendant who heard that case and has heard several others in which Alexander has figured, says:

"It is his art of examining witnesses, quickly getting to the point, throwing witnesses off-guard, and developing many of the important angles of his own case out of the breakdown of his opponent's, that makes him such a successful trial lawyer."

Led Civil Rights Campaign

Following this initial victory, Alexander won new laurels through his prosecution of civil rights cases, largely at his own expense. Philadelphians remember his suit against the Aldine theatre which in 1925 refused to seat some reputable Negro citizens who sought admission to "The Ten Commandments." He won again in the famous Stanley theatre cases and the Earl theatre case, and then led the fight against discriminatory practices in Horn and Hardart, Child's, Stouffer's and other nationally known restaurants.

It was because of this interest in race discrimination cases, that the Negro parents of Chester county came twenty miles to get Raymond Pace Alexander to represent them in the far-reaching Berwyn school case—a case that dragged out for two years and cost a candidate the governorship.

It will be recalled that, because of the depression, the school boards of Chester county merged and jointly erected a modern, consolidated grade school, at a cost of $500,000. It was the last word in the latest equipment and meant to be ultra ultra and exclusive, and, although built out of taxes, the whites decided that "it won't be exclusive if we let Negro children in."

It was agreed that the largest of the abandoned school buildings be turned into an all-Negro school, and the 50-year-old structure in Berwyn was so designated. Unitedly, the Negro parents, the majority of whom owned their own little homes, objected and protested. They refused to send their children to the jim-crow school, even when so ordered by the county court; instead, fathers and mothers served 10-day jail sentences one after the other and came out to put their pennies together to procure a lawyer, with the aid of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The struggle waged in two counties, went up to the state supreme court, and returned to the county courts. But the Negro parents won; had the half-million dollar school opened to all children, regardless of race, and saved Pennsylvania from taking a step which in today's thinking would be stamped as patently Nazi.

Alexander was not satisfied to bask in the sunshine of this historic case. He received some fees, spent more of his own money, made trip after trip to the state capital and spent long hours at night addressing meetings and keeping the parents from getting "cold feet." This is all a matter of record. It is also on the record that he never forgot Commonwealth's Attorney William A. Schnader—and he did not allow Negroes of the state to forget.

Schnader had it in his power to declare the action of the Chester school board illegal, Alexander claims, but, with his mind on the governorship, he first shifted the responsibility for ruling in the matter to the Chester district attorney who, as one of the "exclusives," refused to act. Then Schnader passed the buck again and referred the matter to a commission of five, including two Negroes, but again the jim-crow set-up was upheld.

When Schnader was actually slated to run for the governorship in 1933, he took steps to settle the Berwyn case right—as a political measure—and it was settled, but nevertheless, Alexander took the stump against him and at the election the former Commonwealth's Attorney lost by 33,000 votes in a million and one-half votes cast. For the first time in sixty years Pennsylvania elected a Democratic governor. Those in the know claim that "Bill" Schnader was as potent a factor in making 75,000 Negro voters desert the Republican ticket as was the New Deal.

The Nora Holt Ray Case

Another case which cannot be omitted, is the celebrated Nora Holt Ray case, in which Alexander faced the high-powered lawyers of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation and won for his client. Thrice married and known in two continents as an actress and entertainer, Nora Douglas Scroggins Jones Holt next attached Joseph L. Ray, also thrice-wed, and private secretary and confidant to Charles Schwab, the millionaire chairman of the board of Bethlehem Steel.

Ray moved in society of the two races, owned a palatial home in Bethlehem, and could shower thousands of dollars of diamonds, furs, and fine clothes on his talented and very attractive wife. He went further and transferred all his real estate to their joint ownership. Then, after three years, something went wrong, detectives trailed Mrs. Ray to New York, did their Peeping Tom job, and reported. Soon divorce action was started, with Ray particularly interested in getting his realty holdings back into his own possession. Mrs. Ray engaged Alexander and from 1925 to 1927, it was a legal jockey from the courts of Northampton county, to the state supreme court, to the Federal courts.

Ray was never able to prove his charges of adultery. The court refused to believe the testimony of the detectives, dismissed the suit, and allowed the wife

Wilson Photos

JOHN FRANCIS WILLIAMS *SADIE T. MOSSELL ALEXANDER* *MACEO W. HUBBARD*

Partners in the firm of Raymond Pace Alexander

a handsome alimony from the $5,000-plus salary of her husband.

In his attempt to save his real estate, Ray also had a difficult time in court and finally settled out of court. He got back his real property but gave in exchange cash, diamonds, furs, grand pianos and other household equipment which left the winsome Nora well-fixed.

Dead Negro Once Worth $500

Not so long ago, $500 was the top price that was paid for a Negro who was killed in some industrial accident. If an arm was lost, or the accident was short of death, the figure was lower. Negroes generally felt that it was useless fighting the big corporations, and either the injured man or his family, if he died, was glad to accept the first offer made and to sign away all right to enter suit, or to do anything else.

It's different now and it is Raymond Pace Alexander more than anyone else who has shown Negroes that they can go in court and win even against the highest salaried attorneys of Big Business.

First, about ten years ago, a maid working for a Negro physician lost her arm in a trolley accident. Her employer refused to have her sign the papers presented by the transit company and persuaded her not to talk. Then he called in Alexander. The trolley's offer of $500 was turned down flat; suit was entered and, instead of the mere pittance she was first proffered, the jury awarded her $13,000. The company, although it had a year to prepare its case, won a new trial on the claim that it had new and important witnesses, but the second jury also decided in the injured girl's favor and raised the damages to $14,000.

This was the largest verdict ever given a Negro in Philadelphia, it is held, until a few years later when six Negroes were killed and eleven injured in the construction of a big bank building. Everyone of the widows and nine of the injured men retained Alexander and he had to bring suit against three of the largest corporations in America — the McNichol Paving Company, the Philadelphia Saving Fund Society, and the Foundation and Construction Company of America.

The suit of a workman who had suffered a broken back and rendered useless for life, was tried as a test case. "Expert" witnesses were necessary and structural engineers and architects from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Lehigh university, and the University of Pennsylvania had to be engaged at great cost to Alexander. All of the other cases depended on this case.

It took eight days to prove that the injured man was a victim of the contractor's failure to shore up the building properly, but a verdict of $25,000 for this one man was the happy result. The Court considered this award excessive and reduced it to $17,500, but this one verdict was enough to have the rest of the cases settled out of court. Altogether, a total of over $125,000 was collected by Alexander for his clients, and it was proved, to those who doubted, that Negro lawyers can win against the best legal brains without asking any quarter.

These kinds of cases, packed with drama as they all were and filled with the stuff that makes headlines—brought more and more clients into Raymond Pace Alexander, and both those who like him and those who do not, admit that clients undoubtedly flock to him "because he gives them plenty for what they put out."

One observation that must be noted is this: A successful lawyer seems to be damned it he does, and damned if he doesn't. If he doesn't show himself a financial success, he is belittled as a failure; if he is "too successful," he is apt to be regarded as "too good" or, "too smooth" or, "too slick," all said in that certain suspicious way.

Alexander seems to have over-lived damnations and gets his practice from all segments of the community and in all branches of the law. Other Negro lawyers also credit him with making it easier for them to get business and "throwing much business" their way.

Good Training Tells

Good training, like good blood tells, or ought to tell. And the firm of Raymond Pace Alexander reflects the reputations of the law schools of Harvard, Yale and the University of Pennsylvania.

Alexander himself started off by being valedictorian of Philadelphia's famous Central high school, where he gave the commencement address on "The Future of the Negro in America." He was awarded a scholarship to the University of Pennsylvania, completed the four-year course in three years (despite working every night as a waiter) and was graduated from the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce with honors in 1920. His work in economics was so outstanding that he was nominated for a graduate scholarship and named a senior tutor. In

(*Continued on page* 347)

Scholar and Gentleman

By Lewis Mumford

This estimate of J. E. Spingarn by his friend is reprinted from the* Saturday Review of Literature *by permission

LONG before his death, J. E. Spingarn had achieved something of the immortality that comes with legend. No one else in his literary generation had produced so decisive an effect with such a fine economy of means. Even his abstention from literary effort, during the last dozen years of his life, created, at least among those who knew him, a stir of uneasiness. Like a late guest for whom a place has been set at dinner, he occupied the attention of the whole table almost as much by his absence as those present could do by their visible efforts. His death, on July 26, 1939, only removed the sense of expectancy that his life perpetually aroused.

Through the dark half year that preceded his death, those who knew J. E. Spingarn as a friend would sometimes measure their private feelings about the man, as one who bore greatness, against the visible achievements of his life, which posterity would finally assay. Were the few books he had written to be weighed confidently against the massive industry of a More, a Babbitt, or even of Spingarn's old master, Woodberry? Had this rich spirit, proud, impulsive, courageous in the face of danger and no less courageous in the face of pain, ever adequately published himself?

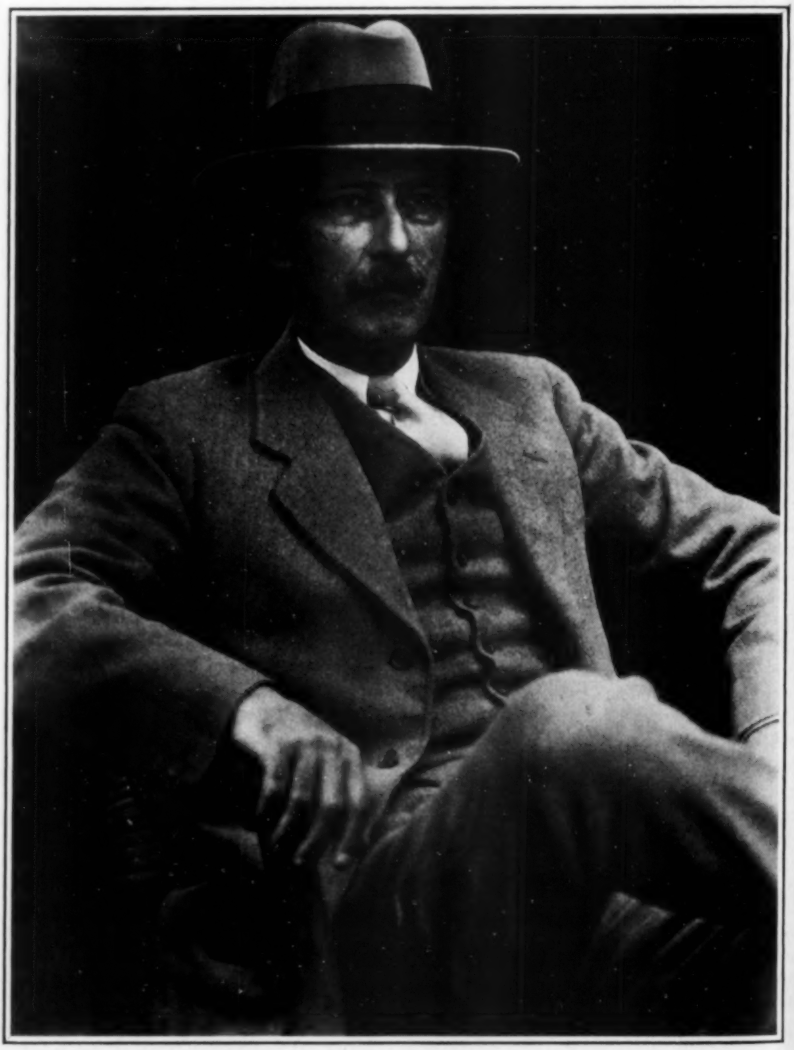
I shared those doubts and even on occasion uttered them; for a man's friends, precisely because they demand the hidden utmost of him, are often more stern in their appraisals than is the world. But on mature reflection, I feel that these judgments ignore the very protean essence of his life; one had better be guided here by Spingarn's own critical dictum: "The tragic does not exist for Criticism, but only Aeschylus and Calderon, Shakespeare and Racine." So one may say that the scholar, the teacher, the soldier, the business man do not exist: only the man exists. The question is not did he fulfill this or that extraneous demand, but did he fulfill himself?

On that point the answer is plain. Spingarn's life itself was more important than its several professional phases. For he renewed, in terms of modern opportunities, the Renaissance ideal of the gentleman: the man equally at home in a garden, a library, an office, or on a battlefield. It is not an accident that one of his confessed ambitions had been to write a monumental study on the Birth and Death of the Gentleman.

But while Spingarn valued the untrammeled routine of the gentleman, he never accepted the amateur's position of good-natured inferiority. Whatever the task before him, he set before himself the professional's rigorous standard of preparation. His knowledge was no less exhaustive than his bibliographies, whether the subject were the culture of the Renaissance or the culture of clematis. He attacked every task with grave passion; and he adplied to it a mind as adept in dealing with ideas as a surgeon's fingers are in making ligatures. Combatting the vice of specialization, he nevertheless managed to retain its virtues.

In pondering my friend's life on the

(*Continued on page* 338)



An informal photograph of J. E. Spingarn

Fighting the Inferiority Complex

By Nannie M. Travis

SOME groups of college freshmen and I have recently had some very interesting discussions centered around the question: What do the masses of Negroes know and feel about their rights, their achievements, and their worth as men? The conclusions arrived at point to a rather discouraging situation, but, according to all my past experience, it is, I fear, a rather true one. It is certainly one that ought to give us food for thought.

First, the opinion was almost unanimous that our people know far too little about their rights, even such rights as are guaranteed us; and that even when they do know them, they too often, through ignorance of what steps to take or through timidity in dealing with the white man, do nothing about them.

A second general conclusion was that the Negro masses feel themselves inferior to the white man. They too willingly accept the status of underdog.

Another severe indictment was that we do not properly respect and appreciate our own. As a rule, a Negro will not work as willingly and as conscientiously for a Negro employer as for a white employer, even though he is receiving the same pay. And over and over have we heard some of our people boast that when they get sick or in trouble they want a white doctor or lawyer. Over and over do we see our people pass a Negro store to buy from another. Of course, sad to say, sometimes in the Negro store we will find the reason, but that does not absolve us from the just criticism that we have not learned the art or the value of cooperation. Instead of forming a united front to resist some of the unjust treatment imposed upon us, we let our mistrust of each other and our confidence in "Mr. Ben" and "Mr. Eddie" keep us divided and powerless, thus playing directly into the hands of those who would exploit us.

What to Do?

Why are these things true, and what can we do about them?

We are, and have been, victims of a vicious propaganda based on the myth of racial superiority and inferiority, and designed by the white man as an attempt to salve his conscience, to justify himself in the eyes of the world, and to make the Negro an easier prey for his exploitation. How great has been the opportunity for the masses of our people, especially those in the rural South, to overcome the effects of this influence?

One of the prime tasks of the race is to overcome the tremendous inroads which the propaganda of inferiority has made among colored people and especially colored youth. These are a few helpful suggestions

Born of poor, uneducated parents, the young colored boy soon learns that there are places which he may not enter because he is a Negro; that there are privileges which he may not have because he is a Negro; and that he must use a different code of behavior in his contact with white people from the natural, friendly code he may use in dealing with his own people. In school his textbooks are all full of the achievements, viewpoints, and illustrations of white folks. The Negro, if not ignored altogether, is mentioned only in a negligible or disparaging way. Most, if not all, of the other few books and papers that come his way are the same. When he goes to town, if he is allowed to enter the backway of a theater, from his balcony seat what does he see but more of the same thing glorified? No wonder his personality is warped and he gets the idea that his race has no future and has had no past. How is he to think and feel otherwise unless some one leads him into a true knowledge of his history, his rights, and his worth? And who is there to do this except those members of his own race who have acquired some of that knowledge? Who else has the motive?

His chance of salvation, as well as our own, lies with us who have had the advantage of some college training; and we should accept the challenge as an opportunity as well as a responsibility, for his cause is our cause. And we don't all have to be teachers to share this. Any line of work, or just ordinary conversation furnishes opportunities for the natural, gradual diffusion of the information and the attitudes we have acquired. Whatever knowledge we gain that will help to liberate our people should provide us with both material and motive. What then shall be our method?

Truth vs. Propaganda

The weapon with which to fight propaganda is truth; the counterpoise for unfavorable news is favorable news; the antidote for criteria tending to humiliate us and to develop in us an inferiority complex is criteria which tends to foster our self-respect.

So whenever and under whatever conditions we meet that fabulous theory of racial inferiority or superiority, we may turn to the scientists for the truth, so far as it is known. In an interesting article, "Impurities of Race Purity," in the *Magazine Digest* for November, 1936, we have the opinions of four distinguished scientists, all agreeing that the theory is an illusion. One of these scientists, M. Jacques Soustelle, Assistant in the Museum of Ethnography of the University of Paris, says that pure race is a myth in the eyes of anthropology, that cross-breeding seems to have been the rule in the course of history, and that history shows that any social group whatsoever, regardless of its ethnic composition is capable of developing a great and fine civilization if it is placed in the necessary conditions. Another of them, M. Marcel Griaule, Joint Director of the Laboratory of Ethnology of the School for Higher Studies of Paris, says that no animal race is more cross-bred than the human race. And Franz Boas, famous German-born American anthropologist, in an article, "Race Prejudice from the Scientists' Angle," *Forum,* August, 1937, says that there is no pure human race anywhere, and that there is not the slightest scientific proof that "race" determines mentality, but there is overwhelming evidence that mentality is influenced by traditional culture.

For further answer when the Negro's mental capacity is being questioned, we may turn to the records constantly being made by our people in schools and colleges attended by both races or all races. We may turn to the Speyer School in New York City with its fifty bright children from eight to eleven years old, all with an I.Q. over 130, picked from the top 10,000 of New York's million school children; three of these fifty children are Negroes. Or we may turn to the announcement made by Witty and Jenkins in the *Journal of Social Psychology* for February, 1935, of their discovery of a Negro girl with an I.Q. of 200, as high as any ever recorded.

The Negro in History

In history we have suffered from the suppression of the truth, which often can be as devastating as untruth. Therefore we should study side by side with any other history, the record of our own people by such men as Carter Woodson, Benjamin Brawley, and Willis N. Huggins. It may help to stiffen the little Negro's backbone to know that the black race has an honorable history reaching far into the past, and that many of the great names of history, both ancient and modern, are the names of Negroes, as quiet as it is kept. Help him to find out who they are.

In the news we often see nothing about ourselves in some papers except records of our misdoings. To offset the effects of this, we must help to see to it that news is spread of our many honorable achievements. It might increase the faith of some of our people in Negro leadership and cooperation to read news stories such as that of Mound Bayou, Mississippi, an all-Negro town with 8,000 people and no jail. We must read our own papers and give our support to those white publications which give us credit for some of the worthwhile things we do.

To counteract the general concept of Africa as a land of savages with no redeeming qualities, let us read and pass on some true accounts of life among the native Africans. Here are some scattered excerpts of such an account by Kenneth Bradley, in the *Magazine Digest* for February, 1937:

"Africans have the most enviable manners."

"The African is perfectly capable of making the distinction between politeness and familiarity in others. He is more discriminating than the European because his judgment is unencumbered with prejudice, class consciousness, and esteem for wealth and intellectualism."

"He is a most punctilious person."

"I have yet to hear an African disparage a man for being poor."

"Intelligence is admired, but he would sooner have an honorable fool than a clever knave."

"Three virtues which are of prime importance to him are, first, self-control; second, humor; and third, politeness."

"To him there is nothing traditional whatever about the white man. He judges all individuals by their observable character."

Literature

The mention of this article leads directly to the great field of recreational reading—of literature. Literature has much to do with shaping the attitudes and ideals of a people, and we should saturate ourselves with the best of it. But in addition to books in which the characters and opinions are always white, and the Negro, if he appears at all, appears only as a servant or a clown, we should help our people to find access to and to read as far as possible the literature of various peoples, to learn their thoughts and feelings. Especially should we read and know the literature of our own people. The soul of the Negro is lifted up and strengthened by acquaintance with books in which Negroes are the heroes and heroines, in which they live and move and have their being as real men and women with their own viewpoints and ideals. Let us read more of our novels, such as those by Zora Neale Hurston, Jessie Fauset, and W. E. B. Dubois; such biography as *Along This Way* by James Weldon Johnson.

And let us become more familiar with our poets. Give them a chance to sing some of their dreams and ideals into our consciousness. I think one of the finest things they are doing for us is the setting up of some standards of beauty that we can call our own. So long have we had before us the glorification of the term "white" and its attendant characteristics as the criteria of beauty in people that some of us, who did not do our own thinking, had accepted it, too. But the poets are trying to re-educate us in that respect. They call our attention to the beauty of dark things and of Negro characteristics. Langston Hughes says:

> "The night is beautiful,
> So the faces of my people."

This from Waring Cuney:

> "She does not know
> Her beauty,
> She thinks her brown body
> Has no glory,
> If she could dance
> Naked
> Under palm trees,
> And see her image in the river,
> She would know."

And Helene Johnson says:

> "Little brown boy,
> Slim, dark, big-eyed,
> Crooning love songs to your banjo—
> . . .
> I love the way you hold your head,
> And I love your eyes flashing . . .
> I love your teeth flashing, . . .
> And the way your hair shines in the spotlight."

I think that every Negro who lays some claim to an education should be as well-informed as he possibly can on things pertaining to his race and should pass the information on to others. Every teacher should have at hand all the Negro pictures, literature, and music suited to the level of her children that she can get and should use it often as a supplement to her other work. Side by side with the necessity for teaching the little Negro boy or girl to read is the necessity for making him feel a respect for himself and confidence in his ability. "First, last, and always," says Kilpatrick, "it is not subject matter which most concerns us, but life and personality and their best growth."

These things we will teach or pass on without exaggeration, without boastfulness, but with the sole aim of having our people know the truth about ourselves and our environment, so that we may develop a deeper appreciation of ourselves as people among the other peoples of the earth and so that we may work more intelligently and effectively toward the securing of our right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." "We shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

If I Were a Negro

By Sophie R. Dornbusch

If I were a Negro
I would say
I'm glad of my
Dark face today.
I'm proud of my race!
I'd fly in the face
Of those meek,
Of those weak,
"Hat-in-hand,"
Afraid-to-stand,
Favor-currying,
Busily-scurrying,
Stand-in-line
Brothers of mine.
But I'm white.
And the fight,
If fight there be,
Is not for me.
To win the prize
It must arise
Within the masses,
From all the classes.
The Negro race
Must set the pace.
Their liberation,
Their salvation,
Will come at last
When they have passed
This middle stage.
Then in the age
Of greatest strength
They'll go the length
Of sticking together
As bound by leather
To win their goal.
Then will the whole
Of the Negro race
Stand in its place
And lift its head,
Its arms wide-spread
To embrace humanity
As humanity has not embraced it.

Letters From a Sharecropper

The incidents related in these letters are true, but the towns are fictitious and the author must remain anonymous

Mt. Sterling, Miss., Feb. 5.

Mr. Cary Stevens,
Dear Sir:

A few days ago when me and brother Ed. Jackson was up at Union headquarters we talked with two NAACP lawyers who was down here to argue a case about Negroes going to school to study medicine. We didn't know that this kind of case could be brought into court. The lawyers made us feel mighty good when they told us that a lot of folks is interested in the way we is getting along down here. You see we got a union down here what both colored folks and white folks belongs to, we has been going on for about two years. Me and brother Jackson was set off the plantation in Arkansas where we made crops four years and we come here to make a crop this season. When we was setting out on the road this winter our organizers brought us some tents and some can goods. That was all that kept us alive. Our folks was beat awful. Some of them died. The NAACP lawyers give us your name and told us to write to you. We needs help. Please write us a kind word.

Yours truly,
Phillip Wills.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Feb. 13.

Mr. Phillip Wills,
Dear Sir:

I was indeed glad to receive your letter telling me about your union. It is quite a treat to me to receive a letter from someone in the Delta country who belongs to the Union, and who is actually working to build a better society. Yes, it is true that I am interested in the work you are doing. At a meeting of the local Committee to Aid Agricultural Workers a woman told how she was flogged when she started to the funeral of a slain sharecropper. She told horrible tales of hunger, poor housing, and brutality on the part of some of the planters. Can these things be true?

It is my opinion that your burdens are my burdens, and that as long as you are oppressed I am too, although I might suffer a little less than you do. This is my last year in college. The month of June will see me on the way to your part of the country. Please send me more news, and some suggestions as to how I can help you. Regards to Mr. Jackson.

Yours sincerely,
Cary Stevens.

Mt. Sterling, Miss., March 6.

Dear Mr. Stevens:

I read your letter to our local meeting. They was overjoyed to hear that you was coming down here. We don't have contack with very many college people. Some of them has helped us organize but they had to quit cause they would of lost they jobs. Most of the educated folks thinks they is better than us. This makes it very hard. It rained something terrible last week. Brother Jacksons house leaked so bad till he had to move the bed to keep it from being soaked. His wife had another tack of pellagacy. Me and brother Jackson has been quite worried lately. A white lawyer what was working with us was found dead in his wrecked auto. One of the vice presidents wants to split the Union and have one for colored and one for white. We has been treated very bad by white folks, but in the Union we go down the line together. We thinks that the NAACP might give us some advice, but we don't have none here. Please tell us what you think about having two unions.

Yours truly,
Phillip Wills.

Philadelphia, Pa., April 2.

Dear Mr. Wills:

It was very sad to learn of the death of the lawyer. The Committee for the Aid of Agricultural Workers received notice of the "accident" several days ago. We mourn your loss, for he was a brave man whom all of us respected. Keep courage. There is no gain without pain, says a Spanish proverb.

I gave your letter to one of the NAACP lawyers. Although he was not, at that time, in position to speak for the entire organization, he said that the Association would in no way support a split in the Union. My own idea is that whether the sharecropper be black or white, the problem is the same. This being true, you must do everything in your power to prevent having two unions. One race cannot rise without the other.

With best wishes, I remain
Yours sincerely,
Cary Stevens.

Mt. Sterling, Miss., April 29.

Dear Mr. Stevens:

Thanks very much for giving us your thoughts about having two unions. Most of us feels that it is better for us all to go along together. We is working very hard. Brother Jackson is been walking all over the country with a white member of our local trying to get people to join the union. They goes most times at night cause this work is very dangerous. Our local owns a car but we don't have no money to buy gas and oil. The car was give to us by somebody up north. Is you really coming down here soon?

Yours truly,
Phillip Wills.

Philadelphia, Penn., May 7.

Dear Mr. Wills:

Final examinations begin within the next few weeks. I am confident of being graduated, although one never knows until the event has actually taken place. I hope to leave here soon after commencement exercises. Please excuse such a short letter.

Sincerely,
Cary Stevens.

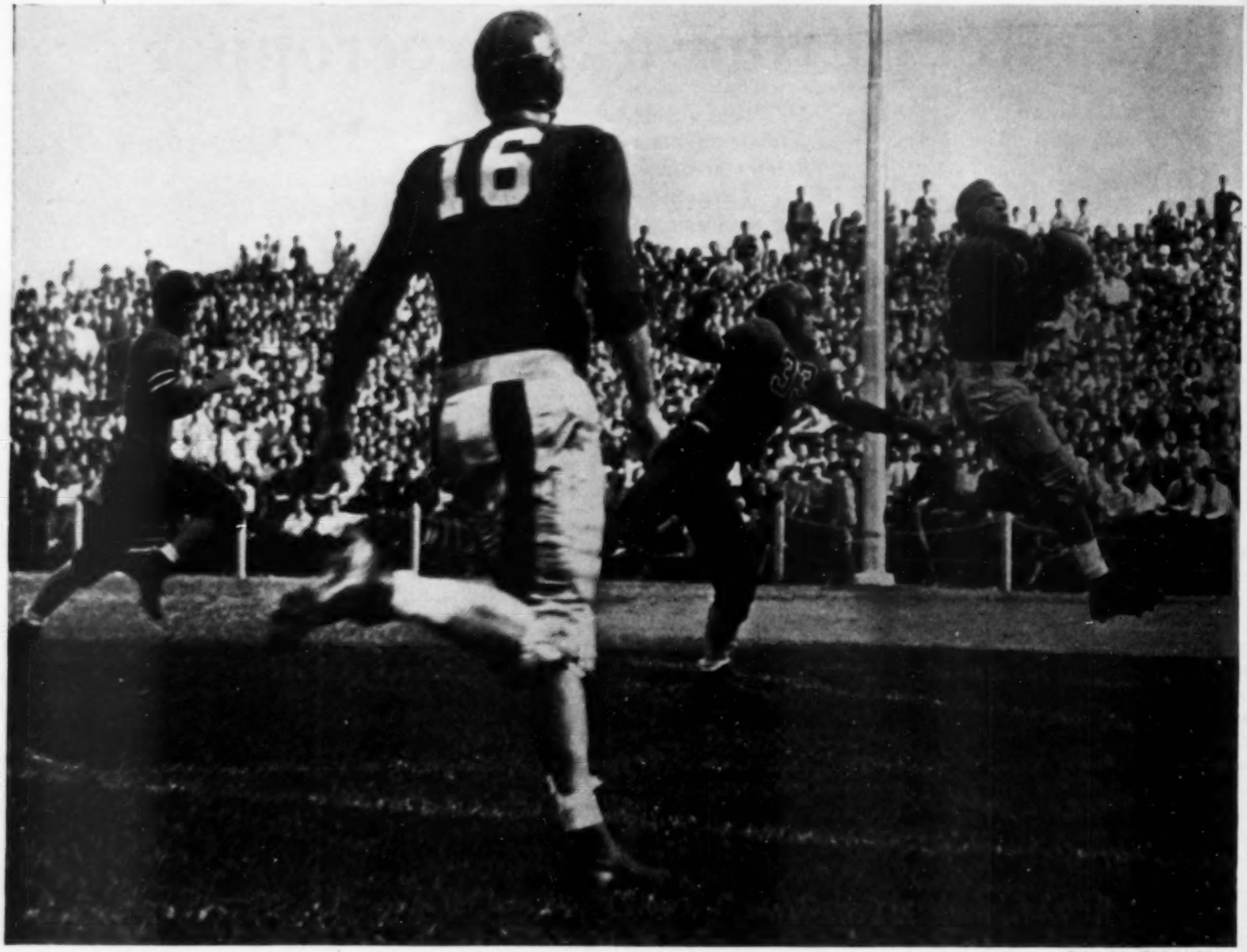
Mt. Sterling, Miss., June 2.

Dear Friend:

Brother Jackson was killed last week. One day he had an argument his plantation boss beat him something terrible while another white man held a gun on him. He was setting on the porch with his wife in the evening when he seen some men coming to the house on horses. His wife told brother Jackson to run and hide in the woods. He couldn't run very fast cause he was sore and the boss rode up and shot him in the back. The union had his funeral and he wore his badge to his grave. It was all very sad but we still has hopes. Here is a piece I tore out of the paper.

> "NEGRO KILLED RESISTING OFFICER
>
> "May 14—Ed. Jackson, a huge Negro, was killed today while resisting a deputy sheriff. An attempt was made to arrest Jackson on a charge of disorderly conduct. A struggle took place, and the officer had to shoot in self defense."

Your friend,
Phillip Wills.



Columbus Citizen Photo

Charles Anderson, star Negro end of the Ohio State team, is shown (right) catching forward pass for a touchdown in the game October 8 when the Buckeyes defeated Missouri. Starmer of Missouri (33) reaches vainly for Anderson

Chinese Dancer in N. Y. Recital Nov. 5

SI-LAN CHEN, young Chinese dancer, was born in the West Indies. Her father was Chinese, her mother French Creole. Her education is essentially British, since she was reared in London. She returned to Trinidad for brief visits during her childhood, and in 1925 spent nearly a year in Port of Spain to establish a dance studio. From there she returned to London and then went to China.

Her father, Eugene Chen, was an important political figure in China in 1926. He was Foreign Minister for the Cantonese government and a close coworker of Sun Yat Sen. During 1926, the Chen family made the historical trek with the forces of Chang Kai Shek from Canton to Hankow. A year later, with a turn in the political situation, they were forced to flee across the grim Gobi desert to the Soviet Union.

Si Lan Chen danced often for the Chinese army in Hankow during 1927. She studied also in the Chinese classical theatre under its greatest figure Mei Lan Fang.

Revolution and exile did not interrupt her career. In Moscow she continued her studies under Gollizovsky, a pupil of Fokine and chief ballet master of the Bolshoi theatre. She toured the country frequently, dancing in theatres, factories and collective farms. Among her dances are several derived from the rich folk art of Soviet minorities, the Tadjiks, Uzbeks and others of Central Asia.

Si-Lan Chen finds Americans a sympathetic people. She has made a short tour of the Middle West and some of the main cities of the South for the China Aid Council. She has insisted, however, that on these tours she would strive to bring not only artistic pleasure to her audiences but a very practical aid to her own people.

New Yorkers will have an opportunity to see the art of Si-Lan Chen at a joint recital which she will give together with William D. Allen, talented concert pianist, at the High School of Music and Arts, Sunday, November 5. This concert is sponsored by the China Aid Council and the Negro Committee for Spanish Refugee Relief.

Editorials

Editor, ROY WILKINS

Advisory Board: Dr. Louis T. Wright, Lewis Gannett, Walter White

Football Honor Roll

THERE was a time when all southern college football teams who traveled north or west to play insisted upon the elimination from the line-up of any Negro players who might be on the host team. Times have changed. The University of North Carolina started the new era in 1936 when it played in New York against Williams on the N.Y.U. team. Now the honor roll of sportsmanship includes Southern Methodist, Texas Christian, Duke, Oklahoma, and Maryland. Southern Methodist, after its game last year against U.C.L.A. in Los Angeles, expressed regret that it had no return game scheduled for Dallas this year so they could play the colored stars of U.C.L.A. in the Texas city! Fair play in sports leads the way to fair play in life. May the honor roll increase!

Negro Officers?

THE War Department has indicated that its plans for the expansion of the army include the formation of Negro combat units of infantry, field artillery, coast artillery, cavalry and engineers. Nothing is said about the air corps although some civilian air training work has been set up at five Negro colleges.

Nothing is said, either, about Negro officers to help in manning these new units. The army program ought certainly to include the training of Negro line officers, both by certifying more Negro cadets to West Point, and by making opportunities for veteran Negro non-commissioned officers to advance to commissions.

And, what about Annapolis and the navy?

For the Right to Exploit Dark Peoples

COLONEL Charles A. Lindbergh has made himself plain on the European war. Lindbergh is for the so-called white races. He would have the United States stay out of any war *except* a war to preserve the white races, i.e., a war against the darker or Eastern races. Said the flying colonel in one of his recent radio speeches:

"Our bond with Europe is a bond of race . . . racial strength is vital . . . if the white race is seriously threatened, it may then be time for us to take part in its protection, to fight side by side with the English, French, and Germans, but not with one against the other for our mutual destruction."

It being apparent to any observer that this war is not one of white nations against dark races, it must follow that the white nations are fighting each other over a prize which each regards as so rich and vital as to be worth the sacrifice of millions of lives and billions of dollars.

That prize, of course, is the right to control and exploit the lands and destiny of hundreds of millions of black, brown and yellow people. There is nothing new or startling in this action. Virtually the same prize was at stake in the first World War. The British fleet blockades the North Sea not because of Poland, or any of the "evil things," mentioned by Mr. Chamberlain, but because of India, Egypt, Kenya, and the oil of Asia Minor. The French army faces the Westwall not because of Poland, but to hold tightly to Morocco, Senegal and other vast colonies in Africa.

Hitler wants some of this rich colonial empire, and there is the rub. He could have the Saar, Memel, Austria, Czechoslovakia—even Poland, but not the lands beyond the sea, not a share in the swag that flows from black and brown hands in the far corners of the world to Paris and London.

Elsewhere in this issue is an article by George Padmore, a competent observer and analyst, which explains this aspect of the war clearly.

Padmore and Lindbergh, far apart, agree on the war. It ought to be clear, therefore, that all this talk of democracy versus dictatorships being the cause of the war is mere nonsense. Negro Americans, who have the greatest interest in a real, working democracy, should not be led astray by pure hokum.

Still No Action

THE Dies Committee investigating "un-American activities" is so busy beating the bushes in a hunt for Communists and Fascists, issuing statements and hunting headlines that it cannot find time to probe into some home grown un-American activities such as lynching and mob violence. Strictly speaking, of course, lynching is really an American activity, since this country is the only one in the civilized world where human beings are hung, shot and roasted to death without benefit of law. The point is that lynching is contrary to our Bill of Rights and our Constitution. The continued activity of lynching mobs and other terroristic organizations which are violating the constitutional guarantees of citizens is a greater menace to American democracy than the arm-waving of a Fritz Kuhn or the skullduggery of the small knots of American Communists.

But Dies (from Texas) cannot see that. In his state it has always been all right (and perfectly American) to kick Negroes around, to hunt them down, kill and burn them without once thinking about the Bill of Rights.

If the democracies cave in it will not be from the pressure of outside groups—so-called "alien menaces"—but from the rot within, the indifference to the rights of political, racial, and religious minorities. But what has happened to indicate that Congressman Dies knows anything about democracy or its preservation?

The Mormon City

EACH Sunday the nation is treated to superb choral music coming from the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City, Utah. The announcer on the radio always has a deeply religious script admonishing mankind on the things of the spirit in the midst of a troubled world. It sounds good. The music sounds better, but the script is good.

But early in September this writer saw Salt Lake City face to face and from this time forth the radio script will be just so many words. The city fairly reeks with religion. The great Mormon Temple dominates everything. The Tabernacle squats by its side, gathering in all those who may not go into the Temple. The beautiful gardens are there for tourists and townsfolk. Brigham Young's statue crowns a main thoroughfare and Brigham Young's grave is a "sacred spot."

Yet in this city, heavy with religion, one may not eat in public places nor may a traveler find rest at an inn—if he happens to be black. All we wanted was a cup of coffee and a roll at 5 a.m. so we could continue on our journey, but it was not for us in this city lying under the shadow of the tall spires of a Temple of Religion. We were not white. So we betook ourselves across the line to Nevada where they deal from the top of the deck, where flood-lighted churches creating a false atmosphere of brotherly love do not dominate the towns, and where we got a very nice breakfast.

Scholar—Gentleman

(*Continued from page* 332)

night of his death I was struck for the first time by a parallel in American literature I had never suspected before. It will not do to push this parallel too far; but one cannot altogether neglect it—an inner connection between this austere man, who cried he had "gnawed the heart of night and care to keep myself from gnawing mine own heart," and Herman Melville. Like Melville, Spingarn ran away from home as a lad in his teens, in search of something yet unwon and unknown; and though his abrupt departure ended more swiftly than Melville's whaling cruise, it was followed by a similar meteoric career. Even their poems bear a curious resemblance to each other: born of similar temperaments, not imitation. And above all, they were alike in their towering pride; a pride that often created a barrier between them and their colleagues and in turn perhaps limited the work they were most fit to do.

Joel Elias Spingarn was born in 1875. By 1899 he had already published a volume of great erudition and critical discernment: his classic "History of Literary Criticism in the Renaissance." Presently, he was associated with George Woodberry as professor in the new department of Comparative Literature at Columbia: *the* brilliant young man of the university. There are many stories about his work as a professor. One of the best of them tells of his lecturing with furious intensity for half an hour and then saying: "That is all I have to express on the subject; the class is free for the rest of the hour." Spingarn used to say that this story was apocryphal; but like many such stories, it picks out the essential quality of its subject: his aversion to tedious pedantry, his hatred of the dry punctilio of habit.

His academic career came to a sudden climax through his dismissal in 1911, following a quixotic attempt on his part to pit his powers against the sodden forces of official routine. Apart from the fact that this act took a great scholar out of his natural sphere, I would not overstress the purely personal results of this conflict: the breech must have come sooner or later. But the social context was significant, as in every other major act in Spingarn's life.

Spingarn fought for professorial dignity against bureaucratic convenience; he fought for truth and freedom against lies, subterfuges, and double dealings; he fought for an autonomous faculty, against a system that gave all effectual power to the Board of Trustees and the President. The issues he raised in this controversy have remained alive in the very form he raised them. It is not too much to say that his sturdy campaign eventually paved the way for the notable revision of the whole system that is now being worked out in the City Colleges of New York.

In the prime of his life (1915) Spingarn gave up his literary and academic career in order to bear his part as a soldier in the World War. Presently, in 1917, he published his "Creative Criticism." This book became the center of a long critical conflict that arose as much out of misunderstanding as out of judicious disagreement. Its main thesis has by now become something of a truism: a work of art must be criticized primarily *as* a work of art, in its totality, not in terms of the author's success in inculcating virtue or effecting practical reform. Spingarn did not deny that the artist was a moral and social man, fed by every stream of real experience. He merely said that the work of art existed in its own right, with the self-sufficiency and self-justification that characterizes all living forms.

To a parochial professor at Urbana, Illinois, this doctrine was simply un-American, despite the fact that, as Spingarn later pointed out, it could be found in Emerson and Lowell. To a crusading humanist at Harvard, Spingarn's doctrine was a romantic denial of the artist's moral responsibility. But the fact is that the most damning criticisms of the whole cult of art as an independent entity was written by Spingarn himself: for his mind, in its impeccable rationality, never spared his own prejudices. The criticism was contained in a poem he first called "The New Palace of Art" and then wryly changed, in his collected "Poems", to "Art (A Nightmare)." Here Spingarn pictured the real dilemma of art from the beginning of human culture—that this supreme manifestation of life has flourished only by brutal human sacrifice: "Leisure she craves—and straightway men must sweat." "I find no pleasure in her lovely face," he concluded, "I find no quiet in her dwelling place. . . . We shall not enter Eden till she die."

It was Spingarn's gift, it was indeed the mark of his deep vitality, that his contributions, though never quantitatively great, were always timed for the moment when they were capable of having their maximum impact. Such a man might seem aloof, even impassive; but in face he was always quicker to react than his contemporaries; so, for example, early in the twenties, before fascism had yet defined itself as systematic barbarism, he freely predicted the coming of a blacker period, with a reversion to caste and even slavery; a future that made mock, not only of his own hopes as an American, but of his lifelong devotion to the liberation of the Negro.

At a time when all his scholarly colleagues were laming themselves by servile imitation of quantitative "science" on the German model, Spingarn renewed the pan-European tradition of scholarship. Precisely at the moment when pragmatism was completing its apparent triumph, he introduced Croce to America. So, too, he brought over the contemporary thought of Italy itself, reviving DeSanctis, bringing out Gentile, Borgese, even Pareto. It was Spingarn, finally, who as early as 1922, addressed a manifesto to the Younger-Generation, preaching a return to tradition and to history.

Spingarn belongs among the dark stars in American letters; his place is alongside Hawthorne, Melville, Poe; men who brooded on the world's darkness and knew all its gradations of horror, not because they despised the light, but because they kept their eyes open even when daylight had departed. These men are often closer to the approaching dawn than those who make their easy, mid-day observations, unquickened by pain, anguish, terror, and dismay. Theirs, in the last line of Spingarn's early poem, "The New Hesperides," is an "inner travail breeding nobler pain, an outer struggle for the golden day." Spingarn by his life made those young anticipatory words become visible. His final testament to us is the book that he lived, but never lived to write.

Resignation

By Carlton F. Wilson

Oh Lord, when he could hardly reach my knee,
I stooped to hear his dreams of distant lands
Where heart and mind determine Destiny;
And then to free him from these man-made bands
We set our ploughshares deeper than before,
And gladly bore the brunt of sun and rain
That Autumn days might swell the threshing floor,
And toil-worn hands be filled with fruited grain.

With quickened years young manhood swiftly came,
To find him eager-eyed in cap and gown;
In marts of trade he sought to win acclaim
But found his race a stranger to Renown.
He sets the plow—with eyes that look afar—
Oh Lord, like yours, my son must bear a scar!.

From the Press of the Nation

Editorial of the Month

Why Separate Schools Are Undesirable

The *Afro-American*, Baltimore, Md.

Survey Graphic, in an educational survey, finds educational opportunities in the United States unequal in the several States. California, it says, gives twice as much schooling as Nebraska and six times as much as Kentucky.

Based on per capita costs, the colored schools of Florida are only one-third as good as Florida's white schools. South Carolina's are one-sixth as good, and Virginia's are two-thirds as good as the white schools.

When you consider that public schools in New York and New England are five, six, sometimes seven times as good as white schools of the white South, when compared with colored schools they are four to thirty-six times as good.

What this means is that, as far as public schools are concerned, anyone who may be educated in mixed schools has a far better chance of modern education than if he attends separate schools.

Nineteen states at present have separate schools for colored children and in three other states such separation may be made. This leaves twelve States where separate schools are forbidden by law and fourteen more where the law is silent on the question.

The score is, therefore, twenty-six states against jim crow schools and twenty-two for them.

Our job would, therefore, seem to be to keep the schools in the twenty-six states which now have them and fight to the last ditch against setting up any more jim crow schools in Illinois, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.

Separate schools would never have gotten a foothold in these three states except for the wobbly policy of our own educational leaders who somehow got the idea that the main purpose of public schools is to provide jobs for colored teachers instead of giving colored kids a first-class education.

Fortunately, at Howard University, under educators like Dr. Charles Thompson, Leon Ransom, Ellis O. Knox, Doxy Wilkerson, Dr. Charles Wesley and others, there has grown up an educational policy that doesn't wobble.

Here is what Dr. Thompson says about the separate school:

"The separate school is . . . a symbol of the inferior social, economic, and political status of colored people in American life in general.

". . . The separate school is uneconomical . . . sufficient funds are not available to support decent schools (for both races) . . . it is the colored school that suffers. . . .

"Those who argue that the separate school with equal facilities is superior to the mixed school with (race) prejudice, should know that the separate school, or anything separate, with equal facilities, is a fiction . . . does not exist anywhere—not even in Washington, D. C., where colored people have more substantially equal facilities than in any other system."

The new policy does not stop with declaring the separate public school inferior and undesirable. It goes further to submit that if we are going to have better colored separate schools, we must control them.

In public schools, Dr. Thompson recommends colored principals, colored supervisors, directors, assistant superintendents and colored members on school boards.

That is the two-point program which Dr. Thompson recommends: a fight to prevent extension of separate schools and a fight to control those we have.

The words, democracy and freedom are being much talked about today. Here in our own country we see these lofty terms daily linked with words concerning the danger of un-American and subversive activities.

We too are realistic. We believe that democracy begins at home. And yet it daily passes the door of 13,000,000 Americans, nor does it pause to knock.

Again we put the question squarely to Mr. Martin Dies, the man from Texas:

Speak out Martin Dies. If you fight against the un-American and subversive then you must necessarily fight to end the disenfranchisement of those black men and women who live within the territory you are supposed to represent. . . . *Chicago Defender.*

At a time when the Republican party is busy making a national drive to recapture the allegiance of Negro voters who have in recent years been in the Democratic column, it is probably embarrassing to National Chairman John Hamilton and Dr. Glenn Frank's planning board to read remarks attributed to Alfred M. Landon, titular head of that party, about Southern delegations to national conventions being "weighed" down with Negroes. . . .

Mr. Landon's remarks hardly need comment except that he has apparently not learned yet that the Republican party lost the Negro vote because of its utter disregard of the Negro: it took the position that the Negro was forever indebted to the party because of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation; it made no effort to enfranchise Negroes in the South and went "lily-white" at every opportunity. . . . New York, N. Y., *Age.*

In order to get around the court's decision in the Gaines case and thereby keep intact its comparatively backward jim-crow school system, Missouri hurriedly set up a "fly-by-night" law school for Negroes at St. Louis, as an arm of the jim-crow state university, Lincoln University of Mo. Not to be outdone by Missouri, that so-called great liberal southern state, North Carolina, made gargantuan efforts to open the doors of an inferior jim-crow law school for Negroes. The state officials received heroic aid in their scheme from James L. Sheppard, Negro, president of North Carolina College for Negroes, at Durham. . . . New York, N. Y., *Amsterdam News.*

Citizenship has been featured during the week terminating today. A citizen should be a model man, taking on every responsibility required. He should be loyal to home, state and country. He should be a home owner, especially a home provider. Be it fully understood that no one is a citizen unless all taxes are paid and the name registered as a voter. This is the priceless value of true citizenship. . . . Savannah, Ga., *Tribune.*

A New Sanatorium for Delaware

THE State of Delaware recently authorized an appropriation of $150,000 to enlarge the Edgewood Tuberculosis Sanatorium for colored people, and behind that action lies an outstanding piece of work by the Wilmington (Del.) branch of the N.A.A.C.P., of which the Reverend Arthur R. James is president.

The Edgewood Sanatorium was filled to capacity and colored people in Delaware were dying of tuberculosis for want of treatment, but the Wilmington branch found the state political leaders deaf to requests for additional facilities.

Upon the discovery that the dominant political party (Republican) and certain "go betweens" who claimed to be able to "fix" the situation were unable to do anything, the branch went to work arousing public opinion and circulating petitions until finally the goal was attained at a special session of the legislature in August.

The story is best told by the Reverend Mr. James:

"Edgewood Sanatorium, located a few miles out of Wilmington, is the state sanatorium for colored people. It has been filled to capacity for some time, with a waiting list of from forty to fifty people. Brandywine Sanatorium, for whites, is located nearby. New buildings have been erected recently at Brandywine, and there is at present an entire floor practically unoccupied there. There is no objection to this, because it is wise to provide for future needs. One of our chief complaints was that Brandywine had room to spare while Edgewood was filled and unable to accommodate those who needed hospitalization badly, with the result that Negroes were dying from tuberculosis without any hope of proper attention and care.

"Tacit Understanding"

"There was a tacit understanding that after the new building at Brandywine was completed Edgewood would receive proper attention. It was also generally understood that the 1939 session of the Legislature would include in its budget an appropriation for the necessary funds. In view of the fact that both houses of the Legislature are fully controlled by the Republicans, and this party has consistently received the support of colored people not only in Wilmington, but throughout the state, everyone expected that the Republicans would show their appreciation of being returned to power in this state by voting favorably on this necessary piece of legislation.

"The Legislature adjourned early in June without providing the funds for the new building at Edgewood, and our local branch decided to take up the matter. We were asked, however, to wait a while, because efforts were being made by some who were supposd to be influential in party circles to have the matter considered favorably when the House was reconvened on August 1.

Republicans Opposed

"In the meantime, I wrote letters to the Governor and the Speaker of the House, setting forth the needs and the urgency of the situation. They both replied, promising to do all that they could to remedy the conditions existing at Edgewood. In fairness to Governor McMullen, I want to say that he kept his word. He not only had Mr. McGuigan, leader of the Democratic minority, to bring in a bill to help Edgewood, but he also appeared in person before the Legislature to urge the making of the appropriation. The McGuigan bill was unanimously supported by the Democrats, while the Republicans voted solidly against it. This was on August first. The Legislature adjourned the next day to meet again on August 14.

"This was our cue to get busy. We prepared mimeographed copies of a protest and sent them round to the different churches in Wilmington, and after securing sufficient names to make a respectable showing, a committee, headed by myself, took this petition to Dover and delivered it to the Speaker of the House in person.

The petition reads as follows:

> The Wilmington Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, acting in behalf of numerous citizens who have been greatly astonished and disappointed by your action on Tuesday, August 1, in refusing to pass a resolution which would have provided necessary funds for the erection of a new building at the Edgewood Sanatorium, is presenting you with this signed protest against what we regard as a most shocking and callous disregard of humanitarian principles by a body which derives its existence from the people.
>
> Although we have specified the Edgewood Sanatorium in this protest, we are quite satisfied that the needs of the other institutions which were mentioned in the McGuigan resolution merited the passage of the resolution.
>
> The Edgewood Sanatorium reached its capacity long ago. There is ever an increasing waiting list which practically dooms those who are on it to continue to grow worse and die without hope of ever receiving proper hospitalization. In the face of this glaring situation, we find it difficult to believe that there is one member of your honorable body who is not fully acquainted with the desperate condition which exists, and which only you can remedy.
>
> We also note with deep concern and resentment the fact that such an important and necessary piece of legislation has been seized upon as a political football, and our resentment is further increased by the fact that the only opposition to the resolution came from the Republican majority who voted solidly against it. Matters affecting the general health and welfare of the public should transcend all party lines.
>
> We therefore respectfully urge you to reconsider this resolution, and furnish means to

(*Continued on page* 345)

Philadelphia Tribune Photo

Governor McMullen is shown signing the bill for the addition to the sanatorium. The Rev. Mr. James is at the extreme right

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

Maryland U. Admits Negro Law Student

The law school of the University of Maryland has admitted William Murphy as a student. Mr. Murphy, the son of George B. Murphy of Baltimore, and the nephew of Carl Murphy, editor of the Baltimore *Afro-American,* is a graduate of Oberlin college. Young Murphy is the third Negro student to be admitted to the Maryland law school. The first was Donald Gaines Murray, admitted in 1935 after a court fight and graduated in 1938. The second was a student admitted to the evening classes.

Six Seek Admission To University of Tennessee

Petitions were filed in Chancery Court in Knoxville, Tenn., October 18, asking for a writ of mandumus directing Dean Fred C. Smith of the University of Tennessee to admit six Negro men students to the University.

The next day the University was directed in a writ signed by Chancellor A. E. Mitchell to show cause why the six applicants should not be admitted as students of the university. The alternative writ of mandamus was made returnable November 6.

Those seeking admission are P. L. Smith, Joseph M. Michael, Walter S. E. Hardy, H. L. Saunders, Ezra Totton and Clinton M. March. Messrs. Smith and Michael applied for admission to the law school and the others for admission to various courses in the graduate school.

The petitions named President James D. Hoskins, Dean Fred G. Smith, Dean Henry B. Witham, Education Commissioner B. O. Duggan, Agriculture Commissioner C. C. Flannery and members of the University Board of Trustees as defendants.

This all-inclusive list of defendants was designed to make a "water tight" case for the Supreme Court, and would eliminate certain technicalities which have appeared in similar suits in the past, it was said.

The petition of Mr. Saunders, which is similar to all the others, states in part:

"Your relator claims the right to be admitted to the graduate school of the University of Tennessee . . . under the constitution of the State of Tennessee, the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and the law of the land, as a citizen, resident and taxpayer."

Scurlock

LEON A. RANSOM

Chief counsel in University of Tennessee case

The University of Tennessee is "the only public institution in the State of Tennessee offering graduate work in the course of study hereinafter described," it was averred.

The petitions point out that the "charter of the University of Tennessee . . . provides that no citizens of Tennessee otherwise qualified shall be excluded from the privileges of the university by reason of his race or color."

Petitioners declare they are citizens and taxpayers of the state and are unable to obtain the kind of courses they desire at any other public institution. They aver they are denied admittance solely because of their race and color.

Chief counsel in the case is Leon A. Ranson of the N.A.A.C.P. national legal committee. The lawyers who filed the petitions are C. A. Cowan of Knoxville, and Z. A. Looby of Nashville. They will assist Mr. Ransom as will Thurgood Marshall of the New York office of the N.A.A.C.P., and William H. Hastie and Charles H. Houston of Washington, D. C., both members of the national legal committee.

Mrs. J. E. Spingarn New Member of N.A.A.C.P. Board

Mrs. J. E. Spingarn, widow of the late President of the N.A.A.C.P., has consented to fill out her husband's unexpired term on the national board of directors of the association. The term does not expire until Dec. 31, 1941. Mrs. Spingarn has long been an ardent worker for the N.A.A.C.P. and has contributed financial support to its work for many years. She is a life ($500) member.

During 1925 and 1926, she donated more than $1,200 for prizes in literature and art to Negro artists and writers. Arna Bontemps, Langston Hughes, Randolph Edmonds, Willis Richardson, John F. Matheus, Eulalie Spence, and Aaron Douglas are among those who have received the Amy Spingarn awards. The prizes were distributed through THE CRISIS magazine, official organ of the association.

Jersey Mobbists Get Suspended Sentences

The eight white mob members in Cranbury, N. J., who assaulted seven Negro potato pickers, including a woman, last August 11, received suspended sentences of from two to three years in prison and were ordered placed on parole for three years by Judge Adrian Lyon, September 29.

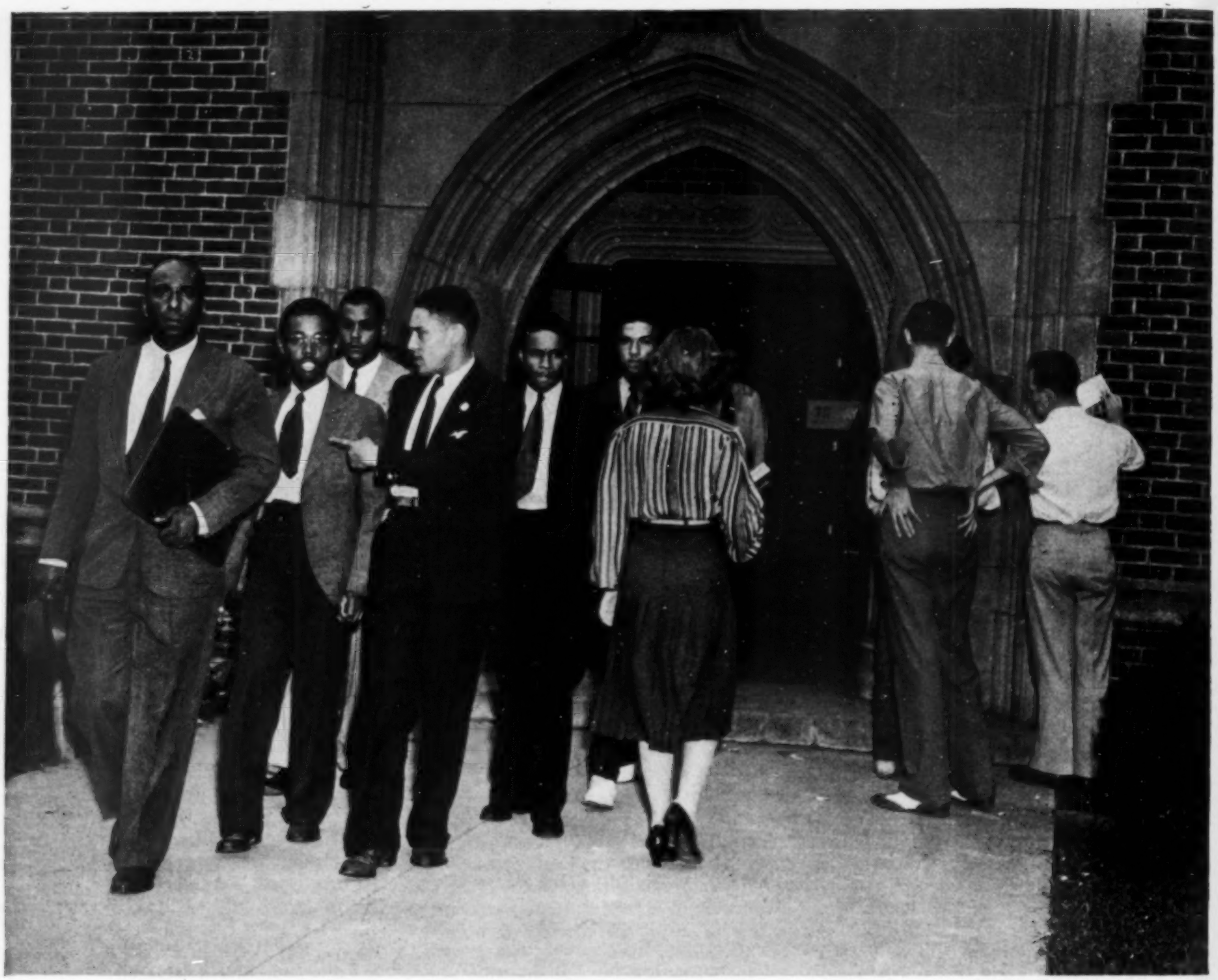
Spectators in the courtroom heard the court's opinion in stunned silence. Walter White, N.A.A.C.P. secretary, issued a statement which declared: "Mob rule has been given the green light by this decision."

Since the prosecutor declared that no further action would be taken, and since the poverty of the convicted men (some of them boys) doomed any possibility of collecting damages in a civil suit, the N.A.A.C.P. decided that further activity for damages would be fruitless.

Sues to Enter School Of Journalism at Missouri U.

A petition for a writ of mandamus to compel officials at the University of Missouri to admit her as a student in the graduate school of journalism has been filed in the circuit court of Boone County by Miss Lucille Bluford of Kansas City, Missouri, through her attorneys Charles H. Houston and Sidney R. Redmond, members of the legal staff of the N.A.A.C.P.

Miss Bluford is a graduate of the University of Kansas in journalism and has been employed for a number of years as managing editor of *The Call* of Kansas City. She is a resident of



Courtesy Knoxville News-Sentinel

Applicants for graduate study at the University of Tennessee are shown here leaving the Administration building after being refused admission. Attorney C. A. Cowan is at extreme right and the others in order are: Clinton M. Marsh, Homer L. Saunders, P. L. Smith, Joseph Michael and Walter S. E. Hardy. Ezra Totten, the sixth applicant, cannot be seen

Missouri and her father owns property and pays taxes in Kansas City. In her petition she recites that she made application in the regular way for admission to the graduate school of journalism and was twice refused. She was directed to apply to Lincoln University, the colored state college, where she was informed that they did not have any graduate course in journalism or even an undergraduate department in journalism. She thereupon reapplied to the University of Missouri and was refused.

Benefit Play

Through the courtesy of Robert E. Sherwood and the Playwrights' Company, the Pulitzer prize play "Abe Lincoln in Illinois" will be given at a special benefit for the N.A.A.C.P. on Thursday evening, November 16. Tickets and information may be secured from the national office, 69 Fifth Avenue.

1939 N.A.A.C.P. Christmas Seals Have New Design

With an entirely new design created by the young Harlem artist Miss Louise Jefferson, more than one million 1939 N.A.A.C.P. Christmas seals are being distributed for sale throughout the country.

The seal this year is a distinctive pattern in black on a silver background. They are larger than the seals of previous years and will make an attractive decoration for Christmas greeting cards, gift packages, and correspondence.

The seals come in books of 100, selling for $1 each. They may be bought in smaller quantities at the standard price of 1¢ each. The seals are on sale at practically all N.A.A.C.P. branches all over the country, or they may be ordered directly from the national office, 69 Fifth avenue, New York, N. Y.

Los Angeles Branch Seeks 1941 Conference

Undaunted by the fact that its invitations to the 1939 and 1940 annual conferences of the N.A.A.C.P. were not accepted by delegates to the 1938 and 1939 conferences, the Los Angeles, Cal., branch, under the presidency of Thomas L. Griffith, Jr., is making plans to present another invitation to the Philadelphia conference next June in the hope that Los Angeles will be chosen for the annual meeting in June, 1941.

Dean William Pickens, director of branches, and Roy Wilkins, editor of

THE CRISIS, who spent their vacations in the Far West, were assured by Mr. Griffith that Los Angeles is determined to have the 1941 conference.

"The annual conference has not met on the Pacific Coast since 1928," Mr. Griffith said, "and we feel that we are entitled to an annual meeting at least every ten years. The conference will do wonders for bolstering up the work of the association in the Far West."

Branch News

California: Dean William Pickens, director of branches, spoke at an organization meeting of the Salinas branch October 4.

Roy Wilkins, editor of The Crisis and assistant secretary from the New York office, met with the executive committee of the Alameda County branch September 15. Walter Gordon is president of the branch.

Dean Pickens spoke for a mass meeting of the Los Angeles branch Sunday afternoon, September 17, at the Second Baptist Church.

Dean Pickens spoke, also, for the Pasadena branch Sunday, September 10, on the subject "The Struggle for Democratic Equality." The Reverend Alfred Wilkins is president of the branch and Gladys Harris is secretary. Members of the board are Dr. Edna L. Griffin, Reverend L. G. Malone, Reverend J. W. Coleman, Reverend Eli Moore, Mr. Durham, Mr. Griffin and Mr. Wright.

The Alameda County branch presented Dean Pickens in an address at the North Oakland Baptist Church on August 29.

Mr. Pickens spoke also in Merced, Cal., September 26. Continuing his tour of the Pacific Coast, Dean Pickens spoke Thursday night, September 14, to a large audience in the Second Baptist Church of Monrovia, Cal., under the auspices of the branch. Lieutenant W. W. Robinson, U. S. A. retired, is president.

Connecticut: The Hartford, Conn., branch, under the presidency of Dr. Allan F. Jackson, presented "Wings Over Jordan" October 14 at the Bushnell Memorial. The Reverend R. A. Moody headed a citizens' committee which cooperated with the branch. Other members of the committee were Reverends Alfred M. Lambert, W. K. Hopes, and James H. D. Baily, and Mrs. Mary Johnson, Mrs. Margaret Greene, Mrs. Elinor Thomas, Miss Grace Paterson, Miss Kay Rozelle Latimor, Mrs. Ruth Banks, Mrs. Louis Strong, Paul Wilson, Cecil Davis, Donald Wheeldin, Mrs. Newkirk, John Rogers, Kenneth Ichman, Allan Davis, L. B. Barnes, and Floyd Davis.

The newly-organized New London branch had a visit October 19 from E. Frederic Morrow, branch coordinator of the New York office. The officers of the new branch are: John R. Leeks, president; Mrs. Delethia Coleman, vice-president; Miss Mary Brown, secretary; Miss Marion Scott, assistant secretary; Mrs. Elizabeth Greene, recording secretary; Mrs. Gibbs, treasurer; William Holden, publicity chairman.

Illinois: The Decatur branch on September 3 won a three-way field and track meet with the Springfield and Bloomington-Normal branches with the score of 43 points. Springfield made 31 and Bloomington-Normal 18. L. J. Winston, of Decatur, in charge of the event, announced that there were between 350 and 400 paid admissions. This is an annual event each Labor Day for the three branches.

The Illinois State Conference of Branches held its meeting in Champaign-Urbana, October 7-8. Attorney Irving Mollision, of Chicago, state president, presided. The principal speaker for the Sunday meeting was Edward B. Jourdain of Evanston, Ill.

The Springfield branch has agreed to support John H. Wilson of that city in his suit against a theatre for violation of the civil rights act. He claims that he was denied admission to the state theatre to see a film "Boy Scouts to the Rescue" in which he was interested because he is a scout master. He claims all scouts and scout leaders had been invited to attend.

The Champaign-Urbana branch gave a reception in honor of students returning to the University of Illinois on Friday, September 22.

Miss Gertrude Dansby, daughter of the president of the branch and Mrs. Dansby, is teaching at the state school for blind colored children in Austin, Tex. She is head of the music department.

Massachusetts: The New Bedford branch met September 22 to consider its fall program and to elect two delegates to the New England State Conference of Branches October 29 in Providence. Those chosen were John R. Barreau and Walter W. Bonner.

Charles H. Houston, special counsel of the N.A.A.C.P., was principal speaker at the mass meeting of the New England State Conference of Branches at Providence October 29.

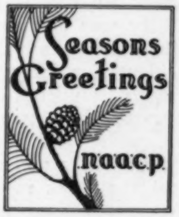
West Virginia: The Charleston branch held its first meeting of the year Sunday, September 10, at the First Baptist Church. The program was entitled "Words and Music" and was presented by students from a number of colleges. The Mrs. Dorothy Walker, Louise Hamler, and Alma Holland formed a committee which arranged sacred and classical music for the occasion.

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset of Philadelphia, Pa., member of the state legislature of Pennsylvania, was the speaker at the October 8 meeting of the Charleston branch at Simpson, M. E. church.

The Huntington branch met September 12 at the Sixteenth Street Baptist church to consider the school education in the town. A committee was named to confer with the board of education as to the possibility of establishing a trade school for Negro students. A committee was named, also, to study the Negro labor problem on the Huntington housing authority projects.

Delaware: The Wilmington branch completed its membership campaign on October 6. The goal was 750 members.

Iowa: The Davenport branch sponsored a musicale in the Bethel A.M.E. church September 22. Included on the program were vocal selections by Miss Edith Reed, Richard Brown, tenor, and a talk, "Birth of the N.A.A.C.P." by Sylvester Sheppard, only Negro attorney in the tri-city area.



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A panel discussion of the Richmond convention constituted the first fall meeting of the Waterloo branch in the A.M.E. church.

Kansas: A report of the thirtieth annual convention was given at the September 5 meeting of the Kansas City branch by R. B. Brown, president and delegate. The program also included St. Peter's C.M.E. church men's choir, vocal solos and a reading, and the public was invited.

New Jersey: The New Jersey State Conference sponsored a meeting September 24 at which were presented the seven victims of the Cranbury mob outrage, Walter White of the national office, Dr. D. W. Anthony, the Rev. W. C. Thompson, and E. Frederic Morrow, coordinator of branches. The meeting was held at St. John's M. E. church in Newark.

The Long Branch unit gave its annual dance on August 31 at the Green Briar Club, Pine Brook, the proceeds of which go to the benefit defense fund.

The Patterson branch sent a contribution for the temporary support of the Cranbury victims.

New York: An educational trip to New York City was sponsored by the New Rochelle branch of which Dr. E. E. Bess is president, for forty junior and senior high school students on October 18. The purpose of the trip was to let the students, white and Negro, meet Negroes in some of the more prominent positions, and the stops included Mrs. Gertrude Ayer, principal of a public school, the Augusta Savage studio, the *New York Age* plant, offices of Tax Commissioner Hubert T. Delany and Judge Charles Toney, the national office of the N.A.A.C.P., the office of the *Amsterdam News,* and the Y. M. C. A. where the group heard Police Lt. Samuel J. Battle. A similar trip was made by an Ossining group under the direction of Dr. George Hill.

The Peekskill branch, of which Joseph F. Barnes, Sr., is president, has announced a membership of 71.

Addresses by Justice of the Peace Noah Barnes and John R. Wall featured the September meeting of the Ossining branch.

The Albany branch presented Mrs. Daisy Lampkin as guest speaker at its opening meeting September 10, and opened its membership drive. A loving cup is to be presented to the division bringing in the greatest number of new members.

North Carolina: On August 30 the Henderson branch sent a well-worded letter signed by the president C. H. Williamson and secretary H. E. Webb, to the *Dispatch* deploring any event that might interfere with good race relations.

Ohio: The Cincinnati branch, of which Attorney William A. McClain is president, was host to the Ohio State Conferences, on September 30 and October 1 at the Union Baptist church. Outstanding events were the Youth banquet, radio broadcast, Interracial breakfast, the Spingarn Memorial, a mass meeting and an address by commissioner Hubert T. Delany of New York. Atty. McKnight was relected to the office of president for the second time.

The Akron branch has been active this fall in presenting its second annual musicale at Perkins Woods auditorium on August 20, a mass meeting on Sunday, September 24, and a benefit dance at the Elizabeth Park ballroom, proceeds to be used for support of the federal anti-lynching bill, on September 26.

Under the auspices of committees from the Columbus branch and the Universal Negro Improvement association, a debate was held September 17 on the passage of the "back to Africa" bill.

The Steubenville branch, presided by Wilbert Williams, presented Dennis Palmer in an address August 28, in the Second Baptist church.

The Dover branch presented Lima Starks, former Alliance councilman, as principal speaker at the August meeting.

Pennsylvania: At the annual meeting of Pennsylvania conference held September 23-24 in Philadelphia, Dr. George A. Walker of Hollidaysburg, president of the Blair county branch was elected a member of the executive committee.

Texas: The Houston branch sponsored a memorial service for the late O. P. DeWalt at East Trinity M. E. church on September 17.

Youth Council News

Education Topic November 5-11

Although Negro youth the country over come face to face with the problem of education every day, specific time has been set aside by the Association for its youth councils and college chapters to take cognizance of its many-sided program to increase educational facilities for all. For the past four years, American Education Week has been designated as the time for N.A.A.C.P. youth to stop and consider what progress has been made in the field of education, and what steps may be taken in the future to insure equality of opportunity to teach and to learn.

Many of the youth councils and college chapters have completed interesting plans for the educational opportunities mass meetings which will be held during the week of November 5–11. Several members of the national staff and other outstanding persons from various walks of life have been engaged to be the main speakers. All youth groups are urged to make an effort to raise funds to help continue the Association's fight. The school cases at the universities of Missouri and Tennessee are still pending, as are the teachers' salary cases in Virginia, Maryland and Florida. Be sure to send an account of your meeting, together with your contribution to the Association's education fund, to the national office as soon as possible.

New Officers

The fall of 1939 brings many changes of leadership to our councils and college chapters. K. Leroy Irvis, former president of the Albany, N. Y., youth council, accepted a teaching position in Baltimore, Md. The council is now undergoing a process of reorganization, with Mrs. Joseph B. Robinson in charge.

The Oklahoma City, Okla., youth council lost its president, the former Elaine Bethel, when she became Mrs. Herbert C. Jackson recently, and moved to Chattanooga, Tennessee. She is succeeded by Miss Queen Esther Penn.

Miss Theresa Alexander, efficient education chairman of the Boston, Mass., youth council came to New York where she is now employed as a social worker at the Riverdale Orphanage. Miss Gertrude Smith succeeds her.

In the college chapters, June graduations eliminated two able presidents in the persons of A. Leonidas Lanier of Lincoln university, Pa., and William C. Raines, of Shaw university, Raleigh, N. C.

Other new presidents are: Bernice Smith, Topeka, Kansas; Ethel Logan, Baltimore, Md.; Miss Bathrus Bailey, Virginia Union college; Samuel Harris, Lincoln university, Jefferson City, Mo.; William B. Gibbs, Jr., Cheyney Teachers college.

Stockton Membership Campaign

The Stockton, California, youth council recently closed a successful fall membership campaign. The newly elected officers are Janarose Freeman, president; Gloria Hendrix, vice-president; Bessie Smith, secretary; Roberta Dennis, assistant secretary; Jacie Hendrix, treasurer; Walter Freeman, sergeant-at-arms; Gloria Freeman, chaplain.

The Seguin, Texas, youth council, although just recently organized and chartered, held its first membership campaign, adding ten new members to its original number. The council also raised and sent to the national office the sum of $5.60 for the William Anderson Defense Fund.

Philadelphia Hears Robinson

Rev. James H. Robinson, acting youth director, was guest of the Philadelphia, Pa., youth council recently. A large number of young people gathered at the Southwest Branch of the Belmont Y.W.C.A. to hear the 1939–40 youth plans of the Association. This meeting was of vital importance as the Philadelphia council will be host to the Youth Section of the 31st annual conference next June.

Miss Frances Gardner, active young president, was reelected for the ensuing year.

Gloster Current Leaves Detroit

Gloster Current, president of the Detroit, Michigan Central Youth Councils, and a prominent figure at the youth section of the past annual conferences, was awarded a scholarship to matriculate at West Virginia State College.

A farewell banquet, under the auspices of the Detroit senior branch, of which Dr. J. J. McClendon is president, was tendered Current at the Lucy Thurman Y.W.C.A.

In a letter of appreciation for past services to the youth work of the association, both local and national, Rev. Robinson, acting youth director, said in part: "I am confident that the work you did in Detroit will not perish. If it does, then you were not a good leader, for a good leader never allows himself to be the movement, but stops at his identification with the movement." This is sound advice for our youth leaders—or any leaders—the country over, and advice which, according to past and present records, is not going unheeded.

Theodore Smith, who has proven himself capable of the task, succeeds Gloster Current as president of the Detroit councils.

Terre Haute Youth Council

Under the sponsorship of Miss Edith Hodges, senior branch executive member, the Terre Haute, Indiana, youth council was formed recently. This active group of young people has concerned itself chiefly with the study of Negro history in order that it may lay the proper foundation on which to build for the future. A word of appreciation is due Mrs. D. E. Hood who aided greatly in this organization.

Temporary officers elected are: Thelma Lyda, president; Dhorothula Hood, secretary; Lorine Smith, treasurer. Other members include Nicholas and Estelle Hood, Sylvester Edwards, Mildred Adams, Elroy Johnson, Alfrieda Vaughn, Virgin Mary Moore, Wallace Darius, Diocletian McClure, Bruce Ladd, Modestine and Bettye Sutton, Jeannette Blake, David Uzzell and Charles Lawdell.

Charter to Danville

The national board of directors granted a charter to the newly organized youth council of Danville, Virginia. Mrs. B. P. Williams, president of the senior branch, was instrumental in the organization, and Charles K. Coleman has been elected president for the ensuing year.

Other councils recently chartered are Rockford, Illinois, under the direction of Dr. Josephine J. Davis, and Brewster (Detroit) Michigan, with Alma E. Strong as president.

Boston Elects Officers

The newly elected officers of the Boston youth council are Reynold Costa, president; Victor Bynoe, vice-president; Josephine Williams, corresponding secretary; Phyllis Mitchell, recording secretary; Randolph Chase, treasurer; Maryland Rodgers, financial secretary; Roberta Rhue, program chairman; Dorothy Newton, social chairman; Gertrude Smith, Education chairman; Seaton Manning, labor and industries chairman.

Organization Committees

Youth council organization committees have been formed in the following cities: Kansas City, Kansas, under the direction of the senior branch president, R. B. Brown; Carbondale, Illinois, under the direction of Emma L. Lewis; Evansville, Indiana, under the direction of Lucille Roberts; Peekskill, N. Y., under the direction of Mrs. Grady Bynum; Lake Providence, La., under the direction of J. H. Scott; Waterloo, Iowa, under the direction of Mrs. Lyda Page.

Morgan Fetes Guests

As a fitting conclusion to a successful membership drive, the Morgan College chapter of Baltimore, Maryland, held a luncheon in honor of Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, Field Secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., and John Henry Lewis, former light heavyweight champion. Both guests were speakers at a brief chapel program which preceded the luncheon.

Those present to receive the guests were Dr. D. O. W. Holmes, president of Morgan College, and Mrs. Holmes; John Lake, president of the college chapter; Eunice Brooks, Wilhelmina Allen, Roberta Roberts, Elise McCleland, Mildred McArthur, Carrie Hill, Bernard Nash, Bruce Edemy and Earl Jackson.

HAS YOUR COUNCIL OR COLLEGE CHAPTER CONTRIBUTED TO THE WILLIAM ANDERSON DEFENSE FUND? IF NOT, SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ACTING YOUTH DIRECTOR IMMEDIATELY. REMEMBER, IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN YOU.

New Sanatorium

(*Continued from page* 340)

relieve what has already become a critical situation.

"We were told that it was too late to receive or introduce new legislation, that only unfinished business would be considered, and that the bill brought in by the Democratic leader was defeated because it included other items. This, of course, was not true, because the Legislature could have stricken out such other items as were not desirable and granted the relief asked for in the bill.

"We were ably supported in our efforts by Councilman John O. Hopkins of Wilmington, Republican colored leader, and Maurice Rousells, colored Democratic leader. These gentlemen spared no efforts to line up support for the passage of a favorable bill. Seeing that the Republicans had only this year regained control of both Houses of the Legislature, we also saw to it that word was passed along to the "High Command" of that party that unless they did something to remedy conditions at Edgewood the colored people would vote against them in 1940, and this Branch would lead the fight.

A Way Is Found

"The upshot of the matter was that the Republicans somehow or other found a way to get behind a substitute bill, granting an appropriation of $150,000 for a new building at Edgewood. If the Federal government will either match this sum or grant a lesser amount, the total amount will go a long way to making conditions better at Edgewood."

Book Reviews

Trouble in Haiti

HAITI: THE CALVARY OF A SOLDIER. By Colonel D. P. Calixte. Former Commandant of the Haitian Army. New York: Wendell Malliet and Company, Publishers, 1939. XV+125pp. $1.25.

IT is curious to me how absolutely incapable the Haitian caciques are to give up the idea, after being in power three or more years, that they are little Caesars and that their misrule is no concern of the United States. All American administrations, whether Republican or Democratic, have a common fund of received and accepted opinions on matters relating to the "banana republics." As backward, semi-feudal countries bordering the Caribbean it is naturally the first aim of American policy to see that internal disorder in any of these countries does not lead to European intervention nor failure to meet interest payments on American loans and investments. Prior to the Roosevelt Administration our Government did not hesitate to send in Marines when they felt that local disorders and "palace revolutions" were going to threaten American investments. But under Roosevelt's "good neighbor policy" we have renounced direct military intervention and substituted the subtler policy of indirect political control through mastery of the economy of these countries. Though America withdrew her Marines from Haiti in 1934, she still controls the island economically and supervises the collection of customs. And though M. Vincent may think of himself as the "Founder of the Second Independence," he is really nothing more than a puppet in the hands of American finance capital. Now American capital is going to put up with M. Vincent's dictatorship only so long as the Haitian Government is able to meet its interest payments on American loans and investments. He may outrage the *titnhonme* (Haitian peasant) and "flabbergast" the Haitian elite by imprisoning such men as Jacques Roumain and Joseph Jolibois. He may use such Occupation established services as Public Health and Public Works as "payroll institutions for all the friends of the President who are jobless. . . ." He may suppress freedom of speech, muzzle the press, exile his political enemies, and wink at graft all without even a peep of criticism from Wall Street; but the moment these tyrannical acts result in open revolt on the part of the *grosnègue* and the *titnhonme* Washington is going to put on the screws.

Much of the tragedy of Haitian history since 1807 is easily traced to the Haitian's inability to govern himself without squabbles and internal disorder. The first Haitian senatorial election of 1807 led to a fourteen-year civil war, and between 1807 and 1939 the country has had twenty-eight presidents while America during the interval 1789–1933 has had only thirty-two. Nine of Haiti's presidents were deposed by revolution, two died in office, one died of poison, one was murdered by a mob, and one was later murdered in prison while hardly more than three actually filled out their normal terms. And because Haiti is a Negro country these disaffections and conflicts are ascribed solely to color when the truth is that they are rooted in her history and Haiti's peculiar position as a Negro nation situated geographically in an area dominated largely by American investment capital. Forced to sell her products in the international market Haiti naturally cannot afford to offend the great powers. And her fear of foreign investments, because of the naturally inevitable foreign control, has made her elite spurn the very capital necessary to raise the subsistence level of her peasants. Yet this same elite is more eager to exploit the *titnhonme* than to help him. Above all, they put more emphasis, in a country sore in need of technicians, on cultural education than industrial skills. With a thorough gallic training it is probably natural that the leading profession should be politics, since commerce is spurned and big business non-existent. As a character in Leon Laleau's *Le Choc* (1932) explains: "Of what do young men dream at your age? Of being the secretary of a legation in order that they might get out of the country—and forget it!" Likewise Frédéric Marcelin, one of the most astute and unscrupulous of Haitian politicians, has observed that fraud is in the Haitian blood and that politics is the only means by which a man can make a fortune. This helps to explain the political deal whereby M. Vincent satisfied himself with a $525,000 indemnity for the notorious Massacre River slaughter as well as his condonation of the graft recently uncovered in his administration.

Now whether Colonel Calixte played politics (he says that as a strictly military man he didn't) or whether it was his strict honesty in an administration ridden by graft that led to the concoction of a plot against him is a question that I cannot answer from the evidence furnished in this book. According to the author he was accused of being the originator of the "So-called conspiracy of December 1937 against the Haitian Government." On Sunday, January 9, 1938, he was called in by the Assistant Commandant of the Garde and told to hand in his resignation with the promise that he would be given a diplomatic position abroad. Calling on the President he found that His Excellency had already prepared letters of resignation, which Calixte refused to sign or accept. Knowing that he might be arrested, and probably shot, Calixte decided to leave the country and while waiting for his passport took refuge with the Catholic clergy. Later he was called in by the Secretary of the Interior and informed, on behalf of the President, that he was to receive a military pension of $100 a month with $200 monthly expenses. On February 17th Colonel Calixte was called in, given his passport, a letter of appointment as General Inspector for the Consulates of the Republic of Haiti at Marseilles, Nice, and other Mediterranean Ports, and $400. He was later summoned back to Haiti to answer charges before a Commission of Inquiry and he set out in '38 for Haiti via New York, but upon his arrival in America he found that it would be impossible for him to return to Haiti and in consequence he has remained in New York an exile.

There is no doubt that the Colonel has been much incommoded and seriously mortified by the tryannical acts of the Vincent dictatorship, but his tale of woe (at least as he tells it) is certainly far from being a "Calvary." It reads much like the executive obituary of a recently deposed Grand Exalted Ruler of an Aframerican lodge. Viewed in perspective it strikes one more as *opéra bouffe* than real political tragedy simply because the issues at this distance, or possibly because the author does not sufficiently document them, strike the reader as trivial and inconsequential in the light of the larger economic and political problems of his own country. The president has always been everything in Haiti and a Haitian proverb sententiously says that *Pravette pas jamain gagné raison devant poule:* "The cockroach is always wrong when it argues with the chicken."

JAMES W. IVY

The Evolution of the Negro Family

THE NEGRO FAMILY IN THE UNITED STATES. By E. Franklin Frazier. University of Chicago Press, 686 pp. $4.00.

FOR countless years the family has been the basic unit in the development of human society. From the primitive mother-group in the dawn of history to the modern partnership in twentieth-century urban America it has been the great socializer, the fundamental educator, the most important keystone in the arch of culture.

Realizing the significance of the family, sociology has commenced to study it and, within the past decade especially, scholarly treatises have poured from the presses in increasing numbers. Almost every aspect of the family structure has been dealt with, although the last word has certainly not been said in many instances. The urban family, the rural family, the family and personality development, the family in depression: all these and a host of other titles indicate the widening scope of interest and research.

One of the most fruitful and most important fields of family investigation has until now, however, received but scanty and partial treatment, the Negro family. Reid, DuBois, and Frazier himself have considered the Negro family in certain localities or in relation to special situations. Reuter, Herskovits, Woofter, Woodson and others have discussed the general problems of the Negro. And many other publications have appeared on the periphery of the subject.

Now at last, in *The Negro Family in the United States,* published by the Chicago University Press, E. Franklin Frazier, professor of sociology at Howard University, has given us the definite and complete study hitherto lacking.

It is, in the first place, a much-needed book. Perhaps nine-tenths of the average white scholars ignore the Negro and his culture, but the other tenth knows that American society cannot afford to do so, for he and his institutions are a vital part of the social whole. Minority he may be, but what a minority! One out of every ten Americans is a Negro, and his songs and his science, his dignity and his despair, his hopes and his humor have gone into the mixing-bowl from which America's mores, her social pattern are drawn. For us to be unaware of his family life is for us to be ignorant about an institution that concerns us deeply. Frazier's book thus gives us the necessary information.

In it we learn of the Negro family in the days of slavery; the origins of the mulatto; the disorganizing effects of emancipation and the dominant role of woman during that period, sometimes surviving even today in the rural areas; the gradual establishment of the stable institutionalized free family; mobility and migration and their consequences; urbanization; and the special problems of desertion, illegitimacy, delinquency, divorce, and class stratification.

Such an array of facts is presented not in the classical tradition, that is to say, uninterestingly. To the contrary, Professor Frazier's style is lively, intensely readable and lucid, combining literary ability with keen scientific perception. Witness his analysis of the new race pride among the Negroes:

> Probably never before in history has a people been so nearly completely stripped of its social heritage as the Negroes who were brought to America. Other conquered races have continued to worship their household gods within the intimate circle of their kinsmen. But American slavery destroyed household gods and dissolved the bonds of sympathy and affection between men of the same blood and household. Old men and women might have brooded over memories of their African homeland, but they could not change the world about them. Through force of circumstances, they had to acquire a new language, adopt new habits of labor, and take over, however imperfectly, the folkways of the American environment. Their children, who knew only the American environment, soon forgot the few memories that had been passed on to them and developed motivations and modes of behavior in harmony with the New World. Their children's children have often recalled with skepticism the fragments of stories concerning Africa which have been preserved in their families. But, of the habits and customs as well as the hopes and fears that characterized the life of their forbears in Africa, nothing remains. When educated Negroes of the present generation attempt to resurrect the forgotten memories of their ancestors, they are seeking in the alien culture of Africa a basis for race pride and racial identification. Hence, when a young sophisticated Negro poet asks,
>
> What is Africa to me?
>
> and answers with true poetic license that the African heritage surges up in him
>
> In an old remembered way,
>
> we hear the voice of a new race consciousness in a world of conflict and frustration rather than the past speaking through traditions that have become refined and hallowed as they have been transmitted from generation to generation.

Above all, however, Professor Frazier is a scientist. He has made use of much new material, family history documents collected from numerous communities, and responses to questionnaires sent to persons listed in *Who's Who in Colored America*. And he has availed himself of the best material, sociological, historical, biographical that has already been published. The result is a remarkably well-documented and thoroughly inductive approach.

He is not afraid to contradict erroneous theories, again displaying his dissimilarity to the ordinary academic pussyfooters. For example, he refutes the statements of Herskovits and Woodson that the modern Negro has many direct survivals of African folklore and folkways in his contemporary mores. And in delightfully frank manner Frazier calls Woodson's dicta in regard to these survivals "uncritical and absurd assertions . . . (to be found) among other equally untenable conjectures", and goes on to demonstrate the paramount role of the American environment, the frontier and plantation influences in the development of a Negro folk culture in the new world.

It is this writer's belief that Professor Frazier has made at least three other valuable contributions to the study of the family in particular and of society in general. First, he has demonstrated clearly the way in which a matriarchate or mother-family may originate, grow and flourish even in the twentieth century, when given the right social conditions. And his analysis of the transition to patriarchate or father-family is equally enlightening. Here is the first modern description of a profound societal change, formerly thought to have taken place only in the dim past or among very primitive peoples, and now found on our own doorstep in contemporary America.

Second, he has recapitulated the evolution of all human families in this case history of the Negro family. Although there are obvious specific and local differences it is clear that they are cultural and environmental in nature and not particularly racial. This does not mean that he subscribes to any set phaseological development after the manner of Morgan, but rather that the reader may see in the specific perspectives of this study the broad outlines of all family development; hence the book becomes another of the regular operation of the dynamics of social change.

And third, in his discussion of caste and class, he reveals the part played in the past by tradition and in the present by the continuing industrial revolution in the formation of class lines. Color differentiations are shown to have been largely symbolic and the cultural character or the occupational status of a given group to be the primary social compulsives.

All told, this book, with its full share of scholarly impedimenta—footnotes, bibliography, index—is both scientifically important and popularly interesting. His earlier work has of course marked Frazier's position already. *The Negro Family in the United States* confirms and enhances that status.

WILLIAM S. BERNARD.

Philadelphia Lawyer

(*Continued from page* 331)

athletics he was a member of the track team.

Instead of accepting the scholarship, he headed for the Harvard law school. He was named assistant to two Harvard professors in economics his first two years and was graduated in June 1923. He was admitted to the Pennsylvania bar in September of the same year at 25 years of age.

He paid for his law training by waiting in a cafe, Red-capping, being a Pullman porter, playing in an orchestra and on the stage. He also found time in the summer to study political science at Columbia university.

Among other things, he is remembered in Cambridge for organizing the Negro students into the Nile Club, which organization later led the nationwide campaign that ultimately maneuvered Harvard into admitting Negroes to its million-dollar freshmen dormitory.

John Francis Williams, reputed to be one of the ablest brief-drafters anywhere, has been righthand man to Alexander since 1925, the two being friends since law school days. Williams, native of Connecticut, is a graduate of both the college and the law school of Yale university, and was honored with election to the editorial board of the *Law Review* there. He handles many of the appellate cases for the firm before the state supreme court.

Maceo W. Hubbard came fresh from Harvard law school in 1926, after a notable scholastic career, including holding of the John Harvard Scholarship. He is recognized as one of the most capable men in the profession, particularly in preparation and argument of fine, technical points on difficult cases in the appellate courts. It has been stated frequently that his briefs are on a par with the most famous of the Pennsylvania lawyers in appellate practice. Hubbard, a Georgian, did his undergraduate work at Lincoln university (Pennsylvania).

Long before now, much could have been said of the last member of the firm, Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander, wife of Raymond Pace Alexander, but one who shines in no reflected glory. She, too, completed her undergraduate work in three years at the University of Pennsylvania, graduated with honors and was named to the Henry Pepper Sergeant Fellowship in economics, to which she was re-elected annually until she received her doctor of philosophy degree at the age of twenty-three—the youngest woman in the history of the university and the first Negro woman to receive this coveted academic award.

Mrs. Alexander, grand daughter of Bishop Benjamin Tucker Tanner of the A.M.E. church and niece of Henry O. Tanner, the artist, later matriculated in the law school, was elected to the *Law Review* editorial board, and in 1927 was awarded the bachelor of laws degree—her fourth degree from the University of Pennsylvania. For the past seven years she has been an assistant city solicitor and is acknowledged the most active woman lawyer before the Philadelphia bar. In matters involving estates in the Orphans' Court (the Surrogate Court of Pennsylvania), there is no more able and skillful practitioner. She is the only Negro woman practicing law in the state of Pennsylvania.

The four members of the firm have been together from twelve to fourteen years, and like it. Rather than each putting up his own shingle and glorying in being "my own boss," they have learned that there is as much honor and prestige for them as members of a successful organization as they could hope for as independent attorneys. Together each has the benefit of the collective experience and training of all, representing as they do different backgrounds and three of the most outstanding law schools in the world; together they can have one of the best office-buildings in the city and the "cream" of secretarial and other office help (a total of nine non-lawyers are employed).

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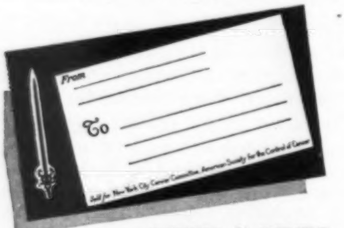
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Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Roy Wilkins, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor of THE CRISIS, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

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ROY WILKINS,
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Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2d day of October, 1939.

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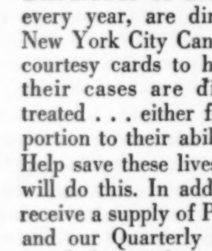

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Being already dead.

School News

(Continued from page 325)

The 1939–40 school session at **Arkansas State College** began September 18. To the faculty have been appointed twenty-six new instructors.

On leave of absence are James W. Kozzard (zoology) to Cornell university; Joseph A. Boiley (economics) to the University of Minnesota; Lawrence A. Davis, (English) to Kansas State College; David T. Wells (music) to Indiana University; James W. Lee (biology) to the University of Iowa.

The new divisional deans are: Pinkie E. Thrift, home economics; Birdie V. Olan, education; and Clarence S. Woodard, agriculture.

New **Fisk** faculty members are: Dr. Bingham Dai (social psychology) University of Chicago; Dr. George N. Redd (physical education) former dean of Texas college; John McLinn Ross (dramatics); Miss Margaret I. Carter (psychology—assistant dean of women); Harold Chapman (piano); Miss Catherine Van Buren (voice); Dr. Lewis Copeland (sociology); and Mrs. Ella V. Griffin, (head resident of the Fisk Social Center.)

The Wesley Weyman Fund has granted the music department $500 a year for two years for purchase of materials needed in the music library.

The new enrollment is 440.

West Virginia State College has established a standardized course in barbering and all its branches. Mr. Felix T. Warren is head of the new West Virginia barber college.

Knoxville College began its 65th year on September 27. The total enrollment is 249 as compared with 286 for last year.

New members of the **St. Augustine College** faculty are Ivan E. Taylor (English) Howard University and University of Pennsylvania. Formerly at Virginia Union, Lincoln University and Samuel Houston college; John Hope Franklin (history) Harvard University, formerly at A. and T. College and Fisk University; and Earl H. McClenney (education) A. and T. College and Cornell University.

Cheshire Building has been renovated and Lyman building equipped with new furniture.

Mrs. Anne L. Patton, home economics instructor at **Tennessee A and I State College,** did post graduate work at Columbia University this summer. Miss Lois H. Daniel studied at the University of Chicago. Mr. Ross Owen studied at the University of Michigan.

Enrollment at **Virginia State College** this year is the highest on record with figures well above the 1,100 mark. Additional living accommodations for late arrivals have had to be secured in private homes in Petersburg. Additions to the faculty are J. A. Bayton (extension department); C. M. Ford (biology); Miss V. P. Foster (physical education); J. A. Holbert (librarian); Dr. P. C. Johnson, (education); A. G. Macklin (high school counsellor); T. V. Meekins (carpentry) Mrs. J. R. Phillips (English); W. R. Simms, publicity director; D. T. Skinner (French); and Mrs. C. M. Smith, business administration.

Returning from leave are T. N. Baker, Jr., chemistry; Miss G. M. Harris, voice; A. C. Phillips, mechanical arts; Dr. E. G. Trigg, veterinary science; Mrs. A. S. Rogers, assistant librarian; H. H. Williams, brickmasonry; and Miss M. W. Neugent, foods and nutrition.

On leave for the 1939–40 school year are W. T. Carter (French) to Michigan U.; Miss Vera Chandler (secretary to the President) to Nebraska U.; R. C. Howard (biology) to Cornell U.; W. N. Ridley (extension department) to University of Minnesota; Mrs. E. G. Settle (English); and J. H. Trotter (chemistry) to University of Michigan.

Great interest is manifested in the civilian pilot training program recently inaugurated at **West Virginia State College** by the civil aeronautics authority.

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—Policies in force: 1,643,125
—Ordinary Insurance: $80,106,234
—Industrial Insurance: $181,961,766.63.
—Health and Accident Insurance: $26,895,069.37
—Employment: 8,150 Negroes
—Policies issued and Revived in 1936: $174,112,773.00
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—Increase in policies, 1936: 251,047

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